TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

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Poetry.

For the Blade.

AT EVENTIDE.

BY S. M. HAYDON.

Within a room, where roses bloom,
And heliotrope, the winter thro',
Sheds on the air a faint perfume,
I wait at eventide for you.

The paling glories of the west
Cast feeble light across the floor,
And, calm as sinks the day to rest,
My heart awaits the opening door.

The noisy sparrows in the pines,
With fobbed wing, their clamor cease,
A distant bell, as day declines,
Tells sweet and slow the hour of peace.

Mayhap, some day—the sudden thought
Fills all my heart with strange alarm—
That you, whose coming ever brought
To even-tide its crowning charm,

Will come no more. As in a dream
I wait the opening of the door,
And try to think how it would seem
To know that you would come no more.

To sit as now, and hear the moan
Of winter wind among the pines,
To hear the far bell's sombre tone,
As wearily the day declines.

To see, along the dusky street,
Dim figures glide like shades of yore,
To hear swift, homeward-gliding feet,
And not—not wait the opening door.

Ah, after all, 'tis not so strange,
In ever thought of it before—
The heart at rest dreams not of change,
Or, once it dreams, it rests no more.

That sudden fear, no longer new
Familiar in my breast doth bide—
To tinge with pain my thoughts of you
In every coming even-tide.

Lysander, N. Y.

For the Blade.

O, STILL DREAM ON, MY GLEESOME BOY.

BY HOWARD C. TRIPP.

Dream on! for you can thus destroy
A vast amount of grief and sorrow;
Dream on, my gay and gleesome boy,
And then awake to toils to-morrow.
For life is full of pitfalls deep,
And death at last is ever certain;
And so, my child, dream on and sleep
Beneath your little cradle curtain.

Dream on! my merry little man,
And thus enjoy life's golden blisses;
And though your face is brown with tan,
I have for you a thousand kisses.
Future years you will not weave
To manhood's grief and gloom and sorrow;
And so, my boy, sweet pleasures take,
And wait for pain to come to-morrow.

Dream on! for soon shall years of strife
Awake you from your joys and pleasure;
Dream on! and thus enjoy your life
To its sublimest, highest measure.
Dream on, and when death's shadows creep
Inside the foldings of your curtain,
With God's fair ones I hope you'll sleep
Where pleasant dreams are ever certain.

Our Story Teller.

IN AN ELEVATOR.

Every one agreed that the season promised to be a brilliant one, and the heart of the New York retail merchant rejoiced. Perfectly-appointed carriages rolled in an endless stream along the more spacious thoroughfares, or stood in long lines outside the various stores patronized by their fair owners. The streets in front of the fashionable ones was hopelessly blocked. It was just such a scene that may be witnessed any fine day in the season, but to one tall, dark, sunburned man, whose upright carriage betrayed his profession, the whole phantasmagoria of fair women, perfectly well-got up men, equally well-got up carriages, and lofty "steppers," was replete with the charm of comparative novelty. But though the scene was inspiring enough, he did not linger long in the region sacred to the Eleusinian mysteries of shopping. Just as he was a crossing the threshold of the Bayonet club, he was hailed by a well-remembered voice.

"Bourchier! by all that's wonderful! Why, I thought you were far away in Europe!"

The speaker was a fair, fresh-colored man, a little over 30, of the familiar type of the man about town, well-dressed, spruce, and with the air of one who is on good terms with himself and all the world.

"Come and have a cigar and a chat. Why, it must be ten years since you left New York."

"It is. I shall be a sort of modern Rip Van Winkle."

"Nonsense, man! We don't forget our friends quite so soon, even in New York," retorted the other, leading the way into the smoking room.

"Now for your news, Huntley," said Bourchier, as he settled himself in an easy chair and lighted a cigar. "Who has been born, who has married, who has died since I saw you last?"

"Let me think. It is a difficult thing to arrange one's ideas when one is bidden to stand and deliver, like that."

In spite of this protest, Huntly during the next half hour contrived to retail a fair amount of gossip.

"You remember little Ida Somerton?" he said suddenly. "Pretty girl, blue eyes, complexion rose and cream, and that sort of thing. Heiress, too. She fell in love with that young Seton, who hadn't a cent to bless himself with, except what he got from the Children of Israel. Her guardian didn't see it; cut up rough, and wouldn't hear of it. But she married him, though, when she came of age," added Huntley, ruefully, for he had certain tender remembrances of his own in connection with the fair heiress. Perhaps the association of ideas prompted his next remark.

"By the bye, Bourchier, wasn't Rosalie Bryden an old flame of your's?"

"That's a leading question with a vengeance," replied the other, with rather a forced laugh, as he pulled viciously at his mustache. "But what of her? She married some rich city man, didn't she?"

"Yes; Josiah Ormskirk. Fellow who made his money on the Stock Exchange. Died a couple of years ago, and left his wife a rich widow. Awfully good thing for her, for I believe he rather led her a life of it some time before his death. Hadn't you heard of it?"

"No. He must have died during my absence in Russia, where I hardly ever saw an American newspaper."

"How did you manage to exist? Well, Mrs. Ormskirk is beginning to go out into society again. I saw her in the Park only yesterday, and by Jove she looked quite as pretty, and almost as young, as she did ten years ago!"

"Yes, she was very pretty," assented Bourchier, and he added, bitterly, "and she took her charms to the best market, as most women do."

"Come, old fellow, don't be cynical," said Huntley. "Have another cigar, and let us talk about something else."

But the mention of his old love's name seemed to have taken away Bourchier's appetite for society gossip. He rose slowly, and looked at his watch.

"Five o'clock. Old habits are things of strong growth. I think I shall stroll down Broadway and see what is going on. Do you feel inclined to come too, Huntley?"

"No, thanks. I feel lazy this afternoon, so I shall look through the evening papers."

"Well, I'm off, at any rate, for an hour's stroll." And with a good-humored smile and a parting shake of the hands the two men parted. As Bourchier sauntered on down bright Broadway his thoughts went back to a certain November afternoon, when he and Rosalie had ridden on horseback through the winding drives in Central Park, and love had got the better of prudence, and he had proposed and been refused. Pretty Rosalie, though she had only the experience of a single season, had enough of worldly wisdom to know that though Vincent Bourchier was handsome, clever enough to be a pleasant companion, of good birth, a brave soldier (he had already distinguished himself at the age of five and twenty), he was no mate for her. She was a penniless but ambitious girl, dependent upon the whims of her aunt, Mrs. Silverton, a stern matron, who had preached her pretty niece many a sermon on the folly and wickedness of girls who married poor men.

"I don't think you are the sort of woman who would be happy with two new dresses a year," she was in the habit of saying. "Think of living in a six-roomed house in a back street, with one Irish hired girl to help you keep house! No, Rosalie, you must marry a rich man, or I wash my hands of you."

Miss Bryden had not sufficient strength of character to defy her aunt and marry Vincent Bourchier, whom, in her heart of hearts, she knew she loved. A couple of months or so later, Josiah Ormskirk proposed to her, and was accepted.

"I wonder if she would remember me if we met again?" thought Bourchier, as he turned, and, impelled by some obscure feeling, took the Elevated, which within a short time deposited him near Central Park. He strolled through the gate, and along the well-remembered drive.

The afternoon being unusually fine, the drive was thronged with carriages. Bourchier paused several times and stood to watch the moving panorama of beauty and fashion. The interminable stream of vehicles and the constant succession of faces that looked blankly at him as they passed, made him feel somewhat melancholy. He was about to turn homeward when he became aware of a pair of large brown eyes regarding him from a handsome barouche that had just come to a standstill not three paces from where he stood. As his gaze rested on the piquant face in which the aforesaid eyes were set a flashing glance of recognition shone from under the delicately arched brows, and a pair of fresh rosy lips parted in a bright smile over a set of the most dazzling little teeth imaginable.

"Rosalie!" murmured Bourchier to himself; "and she has not quite forgotten me after all."

He raised his hat and went quickly forward to the side of the baronche to greet the woman he had parted from in bitterness and anger ten years ago.

"Vincent Bourchier, I declare!" said Mrs. Ormskirk, as she extended her daintily gloved hand; "I thought I could not be mistaken. When did you return from Europe?"

"Only the day before yesterday," he replied, looking her full in the face. "It is a pleasure to find that I am not quite forgotten—a pleasure I hardly anticipated. I have been in the Park for an hour or more, and you are the only person who has recognized me."

"I—I have a good memory for faces. And you are very little altered," she finished with a blush.

That ready blush of pretty Mrs. Ormskirk's gave her an air of girlish simplicity that was more charming than real.

"Would you have known me again?" she asked, with an innocent air, which became her wonderfully.

"I should have known you anywhere," was his fervent answer.

"How crowded the park is this afternoon," remarked the lady changing the subject abruptly. "Isn't it wonderful where all the people come from? And such queer looking people some of them are! Just look at that woman in a pink bonnet and yellow dress!"

"May I call on you, Mrs. Ormskirk?" he asked, when they had talked about mutual acquaintance, criticised the passers-by, and chatted amicably, after the manner of friends who meet after a long interval of absence.

"Of course you may. I live at Megatherium Flats when I am in the city. You will generally find me at home about 4 o'clock." And, with another of her sunny smiles, Mrs. Ormskirk drove on.

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Maj. Bourchier saw a good deal of Mrs. Ormskirk during the next few weeks. On some pretext or other he contrived to drop in nearly every day at Megatherium Flats. The luxurious suite of rooms occupied by the fair widow was on the seventh floor of the huge block of buildings, consequently they were reached by that useful modern convenience, an elevator. Bourchier soon cherished quite a sentimental feeling of affection for the cosy little cage which carried him so easily and so swiftly upward to the dwelling of his charming Rosalie, and had he been of a poetical turn, he would certainly have penned a sonnet in its praise.

He was resolved to try his luck again, and, in spite of the fair widow's occasional fits of caprice, he believed his chances of success were considerably better than than they were ten years ago. The worst of it was that Mrs. Ormskirk had at least half a dozen pretendants, and the name of her admirers was legion. Bourchier was often mortified to find that the attentions of one or the other of this band of aspirants seemed more acceptable to the little coquette than his own. More than once he was tempted to risk everything on a single cast of the die, and ask her boldly if she would marry him. But more prudent counsels prevailed, and he resolved to bide his time. Precipitancy might ruin everything. A woman, he argued, is seldom won by a *coup de main*.

One evening, nearly two months after the meeting in the Park, Mrs. Ormskirk was present at a fancy dress ball given by Mrs. Rodney Rosier, a sister of the most distinguished of the fair widow's suitors. It was the first entertainment of the kind at which the latter had appeared since her husband's death. Mrs. Rosier made so great a point of the matter that she wrote a charming little note begging dear Mrs. Ormskirk to break through her rule. Mrs. Rosier, it may be hinted, was extremely anxious to bring about a match between her brother and Josiah Ormskirk's widow and Josiah Ormskirk's thousands, the Rockminster family's revenues not being exactly in a flourishing condition.

Bourchier also received a card of invitation, and he had the mortification of witnessing the very marked attention paid by Mr. Rockminster to Rosalie, and what was worse, of noticing that the latter received his attentions with apparent satisfaction. He watched the pair with silent wrath. The green-eyed monster had full dominion over him, and of all Mrs. Rodney's Rosier's guests he was the most miserable. The brilliant scene, the music, the gay crowd were like dust and ashes between his teeth. He was about to quit the ball-room in disgust when, as on a previous occasion, he caught a glance from Rosalie's beautiful brown eyes, which seemed to bid him stay. In a moment he relented and went up to her.

She was standing with Mr. Rockminster and one or two other men near one of the long windows.

Bourchier asked for a dance, which was graciously accorded to him, but when the longed-for time came round he sought in vain for the graceful figure dressed in pink as a Watteau shepherdess. Just as the last chords of the waltz were dying away he caught sight of her emerging from a distant conservatory on Rockminster's arm. Bourchier went straight up the pair.

"The last was our dance, I think, Mrs. Ormskirk," he said in a voice that struggled to be calm, but only succeeded in being reproachful.

There was a flush on Rosalie's cheek, and a subdued sparkle in her eyes as she answered:

"I am so sorry, Major Bourchier. And now," she added quickly, "I am going to ask you to give me your arm to my carriage. I am tired, and want to go home."

Mr. Rockminster frowned, and murmured a few words into her ear which Bourchier, could not catch; but Mrs. Ormskirk's silvery tones were so clear that he could not help hearing her reply:

"Yes, to-morrow."

Then she dropped Rockminster's arm, and took Bourchier's arm with a slight air of embarrassment.

"You are leaving early, Mrs. Ormskirk," he said, coldly.

"Yes, I am tired," she replied briefly. "Let us make our way down stairs at once."

But when Mrs. Ormskirk's carriage drove up a slight *contretemps* occurred. The footman proved to be in a state of hopeless intoxication. Bouchier at once informed Rosalie of the state of affairs, adding that it would be better to dispense with his services altogether.

"It is really too provoking," she said. "Maj. Bouchier, I must ask you to drive home with me. I am in a most laughable predicament. Do you understand how to work an elevator?"

Bourchier started, and then hesitated a moment. "Yes, I think so."

"That is fortunate," she said in a relieved tone. "At Megatherium Flats the elevator boy is often not to be found so late as this, and I generally depend on my own servant. I am too nervous to work the thing myself."

Bourchier was naturally overjoyed to do her this trifling service, and he felt that the tete-a-tete drive to Megatherium Flats would almost indemnify himself with alacrity in the widow's cosy brougham, and they were driven off rapidly—too rapidly, he thought—to their destination.

As Mrs. Ormskirk had surmised, the elevator boy was nowhere to be found; the night porter, who could not leave his post, being the only creature about at that late hour.

"I must ask you to escort me to the seventh floor," said Rosalie, smiling, as she seated herself in the left. A small lamp lighted the machine, and shone down on her *poudree* head, piquante face and radiant eyes.

"The ball was a dismal failure—wasn't it?" she said, looking up at him as he worked the ropes.

"Yes—n-no—not altogether," he answered, losing his head somewhat. "It would have been the happiest evening of my life if—" He stopped, and fixed his eyes on her face.

"Yes, Major Bourchier?" she queried softly; "if what?"

"If you had not cheated me out of my waltz, Rosalie," he burst out impulsively.

Mrs. Ormskirk blushed and fingered her fan nervously.

"Oh, Rosalie!" he said, dropping the rope and seating himself at her side, "why will you play with me like this? You know I love you. You know I have loved you for years!" He had seized one of her small hands and pressed it to his lips before she could withdraw it. He had forgotten all about the danger of precipitancy. "Rosalie, listen to me!"

"Not now—not here!" she interrupted with a touch of her old coquetry. "Fancy any one having the hardihood to make a declaration of love—in an elevator! And you used to be so—so romantic!"

"What does it matter where or when one speaks if the love be genuine? I love you truly, Rosalie, and I have been very patient; but I could not bear to see that idiot Rockminster—"

"Major Bourchier, I cannot allow you to speak in that tone of one who may one day be my husband."

"Your husband!"

"Mr. Rockminster proposed to me this evening," she said, dropping her eyes.

"And you accepted him?"

"Well, not exactly!" she replied, with a mischievous smile; "but I may. I have not given him his answer yet. I shall to-morrow."

This, then, was what she meant when she spoke those two words to Rockminster. Bourchier's face turned red with anger.

"Rosalie," he said hotly, "you are a heartless coquette! I have done with you forever."

"I am indeed sorry you should think so badly of me, Major Bourchier. But," she added, with the lightest touch of sarcasm, "that is no reason why you should keep me a prisoner to tell me so. The elevator is at a standstill."

It was true. In his eagerness Bourchier had dropped the rope, and the elevator was stationary.

"I won't keep you a prisoner a moment longer than I can help, Mrs. Ormskirk," he said, jumping up. He pulled the rope vigorously, but the elevator did not move.

"Don't you understand the mechanism?" cried Rosalie, in sudden alarm.

"Yes, of course," he retorted, a trifle irritably; "but—but there seems something wrong with it."

Mrs. Ormskirk sprang to her feet with a little scream of terror.

"Oh, Major Bourchier, we shall be killed, I know we shall. There is some thing wrong with the elevator! We may be dashed to pieces—the thing may fall—or—or something. Oh, what will become of us!" she went on, bursting into tears. "Can't—can't you save me, Vincent?"

She clung to him in her terror.

"Don't be frightened, dearest," he said, trying to speak cheerfully; "it may not be so serious as you think. Do you know if this is an hydraulic elevator? If so, the stoppage may be caused by the failure of the water."

"I don't know—I don't know what an hydraulic elevator is," moaned Rosalie, sobbing. "Such a thing has never happened before. Oh, Vincent, can't—can't you save me?"

"Would to Heaven I could! I would die for you, gladly."

"I don't know about dying *for* me," she sobbed out, "but—but there seems a very good chance of your dying *with* me."

Bourchier smiled.

"I don't think things are quite so bad that, Rosalie."

"How do you know? Why, any minute we may be dashed to pieces! I have heard of such things."

His arm was still around her waist; in her terror she did not seem to notice it—at least she made no attempt to withdraw herself from his embrace.

"Life seems all the more entrancing now, of course," he ventured to say, trying not to speak bitterly. "You were always ambitious, Rosalie, and as Mrs. Rockminster—"

"Who told you I was going to be Mrs. Rockminster?" she retorted with spirit. "If you are going to take advantage of the position to—to *bully* me—"

"My darling, such an idea never crossed my brain. I love you far too well," interrupted Bourchier, with his lips close to her pretty ear. The temptation was irresistible. He kissed her velvet cheek once, twice, and then, as she did not attempt to move, her fresh rosy lips. "Rosalie, do you love me?"

"She was silent save for a slight catching of her breath, that might have been either a sigh or a sob.

"You will not marry Rockminster, will you? You will marry me," he went on passionately. "No one loves you as I do, Rosalie. Think of it; I have loved you for ten long years."

"Is that true?" she whispered in her most musical tones.

"I swear it. Will you marry me, Rosalie?"

"If—if we ever get out of the elevator—I—may."

"The elevator! I love the elevator!" cried Bourchier, enthusiastically, "why, but for it—"

"I might have married Mr. Rockminster," she said, with an odd little laugh. "You told me I was ambitious!"

"Poor Rockminster! and happy me!" laughed Bourchier,

"In the meantime, sir, I insist on being let out of this elevator at once; I object to be kept hanging between earth and heaven like Mohammed—or his coffin—I forget which it was."

Bourchier, of course, retorted that, far from thinking himself in such a position, he considered that the elevator was his heaven, and that for his part he was perfectly happy where he was.

"But I am not," said Rosalie, with some return—real or assumed—of her fears, "it is almost as bad as the Black Hole of Calcutta."

Just then the elevator gave a violent lurch. Mrs. Ormskirk screamed and buried her face in her handkerchief. Bourchier jumped up and caught hold of the rope, and, in a moment, the machine glided smoothly upward.

"Come, Rosalie!" said he, smiling, as they stopped at the seventh floor. "All's well that ends well. You have only been a prisoner for one short half-hour; I am going to put on chains for life—chains of roses, of course," he added hastily. "You have had a fright; I have won a wife—thanks to that delightful institution, the elevator!"

WHEN THE DAY IS GONE.

Burdette Moralizes in Tender Strain Over His Little Child.

How quiet the house is at midnight. The people who talk and laugh and sing in it every day are asleep, and the people who fell asleep in it long ago come silently back into it. Every house has these two classes of tenants. Do we love best those with whom we can laugh and talk and sing, or the dear silent ones who come so noiselessly to our side and whisper to us in faint, sweet, far away whispers that have no sound, so that we only hear their very stillness.

I am not tired, but my pen is weary. It falls from my fingers and I raise my head. I start to leave the table, and my eyes fall upon a little book lying on the floor. It is a little "First Reader." He left it there this afternoon. I remember now. I remember just how I was impatient because he could not read the simple little lesson—such an easy lesson—I told him it was a waste of time trying to teach him, and pushed him away from me. I remember now. I see the flush come into his little tired face, the brave, cheerful look in his eyes—his mother's brave, patient cheeriness—struggling with his disappointment and pain. I see him lie down on the floor and the little face bend over the troublesome little lesson—such a simple, easy lesson, any baby might read it. Then, after a struggle alone, it has to be given up, and the baffled little soldier, with one more appealing look toward me for reinforcements, sighs and gets away from the lesson he cannot read to the play that comforts him. And there lies the little book, just as he left it. Ah me, I could kneel down and kiss it now, as though it were alive and loving.

Why, what was my time worth to me to-day? What was there in the book I wanted to read one-half so precious to me as one cooing word from the prattling lips that quivered when I turned away? I hate that book I read, I will never look at it again; were it the last book in the world I think I would burn it. All its gracious words are lies. I say to you, though all men praise the book, and an hour ago I thought it excellent, I say to you that there is poison in its hateful pages. Why, what can I learn from books that baby lips cannot teach me? Do you know I want to go to the door of his room and listen; the house is so still; may be he is not breathing. Why, if between my books and my boy I choose my book why should not God leave me with my books. My hateful books.

But I was not harsh. I was only a little impatient. Because, you see, his lesson was so easy, so simple. Ah me, there were two of us trying to read this afternoon. There were two easy, simple lessons. Mine was such a very simple, easy, pleasant, loving one to learn. Just a line, just a little throb of patience, of gentleness, of love that would have made my own heart glow and laugh and sing. The letters were so large and plain, the words so easy, and the sentences so short. And I? Oh, pity me, I missed every word. I did not read one line right. See, here is my copy now, all blurred and blistered with tears and heart-ache, all marred and mispelled and blotted. I am ashamed to show it to the Master. And yet I know He will be patient with me I know how loving and gentle He will be. Why, how patiently and lovingly all these years, He has been teaching me this simple lesson I failed upon to day. But when my little pupil stumbled on a single word—. Is my time, then, so much more precious than the Master's that I cannot teach the little lesson more than once?

Ah, friend, we do not waste time when we plait scourges for ourselves. These hurrying days, these busy, anxious, shrewd, ambitious times of ours are wasted when they take our hearts away from patient gentleness, and give us fame for love and gold for kisses. Some day, then, when our hungry souls will ask for bread our selfish god will give us a stone. Life is not a deep, profound, perplexing problem. It is a simple, easy lesson, such as any child may read. You cannot find its solution in the ponderous tomes of the old fathers, the philosophers, the investigators, the theorists. It is not on your book shelves. But in the warmest corner of the most unlettered heart it glows in letters that the blindest may read; a sweet, plain, simple, easy loving lesson. And when you have learned it, brother of mine, the world will be better and happier.

Girls who Can Run a Mile.

When William Blaikie asked a Boston audience the other night, "How many ladies in Boston could run a mile at any pace that could be called a run?" there was a general laugh at the idea. And yet there ought to be girls who can run a mile with ease. Blaikie added if they would tell him any exercise that would do more toward making a man or a woman graceful than running he would like to know what it was. He also described a very salutary form of exercise for the arms and back, such as could be applied even in the case of young children. It consisted of a movement backward of the outstretched arms, with a simultaneous thrusting forward of the chest. In the German militia, said Mr. Blaikie, they took the big-backed young fellows and straightened them up for service—that is, they put on them a kind of a dude collar, two inches wide and an inch thick, and out of that the candidate emerged in about three months one of the most military-looking persons that could be conceived.

What It Resembles.

"I see by the papers that small pox is on the wane in Canada," remarked Mrs. Snaggs.

"Then it resembles a coal dealer a great deal," replied her husband.

"How is that?"

"You said it was on the wane, did you not?"

"Yes."

"Well, if a coal dealer was not on the weighin', too, how would he know how to give 1,800 pounds of coal for a ton?" Mrs. Snaggs retired to consider the question.

Humor.

BILL NYE.

The Old Man Writes a Letter to His Boy in the City.

MY DEAR SON—I tried to write to you last week, but didn't get around it owing to circumstances. I went away on a little business tower for a few days on the cars, and when I got home the sociable broke loose in our onct happy home.

While on my commershal tower down the Omehaw railroad buying a new well-diggin' machine of which I had heard a good deal, pro and con, I had the pleasure of riding on one of them sleeping cars that we read so much about.

I am going on 50 years old and that's the first time I ever slumbered at the rate of 45 miles per hour, including stops.

I got acquainted with the porter, and he blacked my boots in the night unbeknownst to me while I was engaged in slumber. He must have thought that I was your father, and that we rolled in luxury at home all the time, and that it was a common thing for us to have our boots blacked by menials. When I left the car this porter brushed my clothes till the hot flashes ran up and down my spinal column, and I told him that he had treated me square, and I wrung his hand, when he held it out towards me, and I told him that any time he wanted a good cool drink of buttermilk to just holler through our telephone. We had the sociable at our house last week, and when I got home your mother set me right to work borryin' chairs and dishes. She had solicited some cakes and other things. I don't know whether you are onto the skedule by which these socables are run or not. The 'den is a novel one.

The sisters in our set, onct in every so often, turn their houses wrong side out for the purpose of raising $4 to apply on the church debt. When I was a boy we worshipped with less frills than they do now. Now it seems that the debt is a part of the worship.

Well, we had a good time and used up 150 cookies in a short time. Part of these cookies was devoured and the balance was trod into our ai wool carpet.

Several of the young people got to playing Copenhagen in the sitting room and stepped on the old cat in such a way as to disfigure him for life. They also had a disturbance in the front room and knocked off some of the plastering.

So your mother is feeling rather slim, and I am not very chipper myself. I hope that you are working hard at your books, so that you will be an ornament to society. Society is needing some ornaments very much. I sincerely hope that you will not begin to monkey with rum. I should hate to have you meet with a felon's death or fill a drunkard's grave. If anybody has got to fill a drunkard's grave, let him do it himself. What has the drunkard ever done for you that he should expect you to fill his grave for him?

I expect you to do right as near as possible. You will not do exactly right all the time, but try to strike a good average. I do not expect you to let your studies encroach too much on your polo, but try to unite the two so that you will not break down under the strain. I should feel sad and mortified to have you come home a physical wreck. I think one physical wreck in a family is enough, and I am rapidly getting where I can do the entire physical wreck business for our neighborhood.

I see by your picture that you have got one of them pleated coats, with a belt around it and short pants. They make you look as you did when I used to spank you in years gone by, and I feel the same old desire to do it now that I did then. Old and feeble that I am, it seems to me as though I could spank a boy that wears knickerbocker pants buttoned on to a Gerabaldy waist and pleated jacket.

If it wasn't for them cute little camel's hair whiskers of yours I would not believe that you had grown up to be a large, expensive boy, with thoughts. Some of the thoughts you express in your letters are far beyond your years. Do you think them yourself or is there some boy in the school that thinks all the thoughts for the rest?

Some of your letters are so deep that your mother and I can hardly grapple with them. One of them especially was so full of foreign stuff that you had got out of a bill of fare that we will have to wait till you come home before we can take it in. I can talk a little Chippewa, but that's all the foreign language I am familiar with. When I was young we had to get our foreign languages the best we could, so studied Chippewa without a master. A Chippewa chief took me into his camp and kept me there for some time, while I acquired his language. He became so much attached to me that I had great difficulty in coming away.

I wish you would write in the United States dialect as much as possible, and not try to parilize your parents with imported expressions that come too high for poor people.

Remember that you are the only boy we've got, and we are only going through the motion of living here for your sake. For us the day is wearing out, and it is now way long into the shank of the evening. All we ask of you is to improve on the old people. You can see where I fooled myself, and can do better. Read and write and sifer and polo and get noblege, and try not to be ashamed of your uncultivated parents.

When you get that checkered little sawed off coat on and that pair of knee panties and that poker-dot necktie, and the sassy little boys holler "rats" when you pass by and your heart is bowed down, remember that, no matter how foolish you look, your parents will never sour on you.

YOUR FATHER.

A HARDENED YOUNG SKEPTIC.

A Story of a Boy Who Had Learned a Bad Habit.

In the suburban neighborhood of C—— there is a half-witted boy, not quite foolish enough to warrant packing off to a lunatic asylum, but not largely gifted as to wits. All the children know him. His name is Melchisedec.

There also lives in this neighborhood a very bright boy of 6, Harry C—— by name, who is the wonder and pride of his parents and grandparents. His grandmother has constituted herself the guardian of his morals and the superintendent of his religious education. She finds no end of work in combating in him the skeptical tendencies of the age, which, she thinks, are "born in" the rising generation.

The other day Harry came in with a tale that his Aunt Mary had sent down word for him to go over to her house and stay through the afternoon.

"Well," said the grandmother, "if your aunt has sent for you I suppose you may go."

He went. Toward night his aunt brought him home, and it presently transpired that no invitation had been sent for him. He had invented the whole story.

It was a grave crisis in the boy's career, the grandmother felt. She took him aside and labored with him. She told him the story of Ananias and Sapphira. "And now you must never forget," said she, "that the Bible tells us that they were struck dead just for telling a lie."

"Grandma," said the boy after he had taken it all in, "how that story would scare Melchisedec! But you know it don't scare me a bit."—*Boston Record.*

At Biloxi, Miss., the Barataria canning company's works were destroyed by fire. Loss, $35,000; insurance unknown.

LODGE SECRETS.

Two Austin Ladies Discuss the Question—Col. Yerger as a Grand Sachem.

Mrs. Yerger—"You have no idea how much trouble I have with my old man. I didn't think it was possible for him to get any sillier than he was already, but I was mistaken."

"What is he up to now?"

"He is always up to some new foolishness. He is just running the lodge business into the ground. I would like to know all that goes on in these lodge rooms."

"I would too. Judge Peterby comes home every night about one o'clock smelling of whisky and beer, and when I ask him what sort of a smell it is, he has the impudence to tell me it is incense which they use in their mystic ceremonies."

"I've noticed the same smell about Col. Yeager. He, too, said it was incense, and the effect it had on me proved it was incense, because I became incensed as soon as I smelt it. We poor women never find out any lodge secret, for even if a man is ever so talkative, when he comes home from the lodge he is not in a condition to talk. I don't know what Col. Yerger has been doing to deserve it, but they have made him a Grand Sachem?"

"What in the world is that?"

"I don't know. That's some new order he has joined. He already belongs to the Order of the Veiled Nightcaps, and the Order of the Idiotic Red Muffs and three or more Ku-Klux gangs."

"How did you find out that he is a Grand Sachem? Does he talk in his sleep?"

"No. Day before yesterday was his birthday. Just as we were getting up from the supper table there came two knocks at the door, and a deep, grave-like voice said, 'Is the Grand Sachem in his wigwam?' Col. Yerger opened the door, and there was Gus de Smith, Kosciusko Murphy, Mose Schaumberg, Gilhooly Hostetter McGinnis, old Judge Pennybunker and a lot of those reprobates. They came into the room in Indian file, and said: 'Is our red sister well?' Just think of it."

"I'd have scalped them with a fire shovel," said Mrs. Peterby.

"Then Gilhooly struck an attitude and said: 'Most noble Grand Sachem, this is thy birthday, and thy red brethren, the noble red braves now present in this wigwam, in consequence of the high esteem they have for their noble brother, and his great services to the lodge, do present thee, noble savage, with this gold-headed walking cane. Lean on it most worthy son of the forest on thy stroll in the direction of the happy hunting grounds behind the setting sun.'"

"Do you allow such proceedings in your house, Mrs. Yerger? Why I would have scalped them. I'd have exterminated them."

"I couldn't help it. Col. Yerger was very much moved. He said it was the happiest moments of his life, but that his heart was too full for utterance, and turning to me he had the impudence to say, handing me a quarter: 'Here, noble squaw, take this string of wampum, go to the corner grocery with the tin growler, and bring some beer that I may make merry with my red brethern of the forest. Be seated, braves.'"

"I would have mopped the floor with him."

"And for a week afterwards he put on lots of airs. When I wanted him to walk up and down with the baby he said it was not the business of a warrior to carry the papoose around. For a whole week, Mrs. Peterby, that wretched man talked dime novel talk to me until I threatened to invite mother to come and stay with us. That took the nonsense out of the Grand Sachem."

"What silly fools these men are."

"Well, ain't they?"—*Texas Siftings.*

What an Enterprising Drummer Did.

"I had a little experience the other night," said a drummer, "that took all of my nerve and gall to bear up under. Ever since I've been on the road I've made it a principle to meet all engagements. More than once have I skipped three or four towns in which I was sure of selling big bills of goods in order to keep my engagement to call on some girl or other. When I agree to be at a certain place at a given minute you can bet your last dollar I'll be there. Well, the other day I landed in St. Louis, and suddenly discovered that in a moment of forgetfulness I had promised to take two girls to the theatre that night. The girls were not acquainted, either. I hate a liar and a sneak, and the girls' brothers were customers of mine, and so, after thinking the whole thing over, I made up my mind I'd live up to my contract. So I bought my seats at two theaters, engaged my carriage, and prepared for the campaign. I sent word to the first one that I'd call for her rather early, and to the other that I might be a few minutes late. I whirled No. 1 off, seated her, excused myself for a minute before the rising of the curtain, slipped out, and in two seconds the horses were on a run for No. 2. I got her in her seat five minutes after the curtain rose. Stayed the act out, excused myself, went back to the other, apologized, and everything was all right. I spent the evening flitting from one to the other, and got my money's worth out of the hackman, as I made him hump. I made inquiries as to the hour the plays would be over, and found I had 25 minutes' leeway. Then I made such good use of those 25 minutes that I got No. 1 home and was back after No. 2 just as the curtain went down. To do this cost me $12, and the next day I had to skip out of town because the hackman was after me with a bill for one of his horses, which had died from overdriving, but not until after I had sold big bills of goods to the girls' brothers. Besides, I had the satisfaction of keeping my engagements and of performing an unparalelled feat in the theater-going business. That's the kind of a hustler I am."—*Chicago Herald.*

Sure of Heaven.

Some time ago one of Texas's widely known statemen, who is now dead, was passing along a street in Dallas when an old colored man, who had once belonged to him, approached, took off his hat and passed a hand over his white wool as he asked:

"Marster, gin de ole man fifty cent."

"Dan, you are a robber."

"How?" asked the astonished darkey, opening his eyes around which roughshed age had walked.

"Didn't you see me put my hand in my pocket?"

"Yes, sah."

"Well, you old rascal, you rob me of the pleasure of giving you money without being asked."

The old man received a dollar. Bowing almost to the ground, while tears came out and coursed through the aged prints around his eyes, he replied:

"Marster, wid such a heart as you hab, and wid Abraham and Isaac and de Lord on your side, I don't see what can keep you out of heaven."—*Texas Siftings.*

More Than He Could Bear.

"Charlie," said a Spartan mother, "you have disobeyed me twice to-day, and I must punish you."

"Oh, mamma, please don't whip me."

"No, I'll not whip you," was the calm reply; "I'll punish you by making you remain in the parlor while your sister is taking her music lesson."

At this awful sentence the boy fell insensible to the floor. The autopsy revealed that death was caused by fright.

Miscellany.

THE NEW YEAR'S BEGINNING.

Why Does the Year Begin on the 1st of January?

Why does our year commence on the first of January, is a question easily asked but which comparatively few are able to answer. "It marks no division of time nor any event in the world's history which would give it much distinction. The winter solstice—that is when the sun appears to reach its greatest declension, or farthest point south of the equator, occurs December 22, nine days before the new Year begins. The summer solstice, another natural division of time, on June 22, a point nearly as far removed from the new year as the calender permits. The natural divisions of time which suggest themselves at once to the practical observer are the winter and summer solstices and the vernal and autumnal equinoxes, periods at which the days and nights have equal length or their greatest difference. These having been neglected, the moon's phases would seem to have been most likely to have been fixed upon. But Imperial Cæsar, who is 46, B. C. gave us our new year, governed by caprice or reasons of the most temporary duration, departed from the former Roman system of reckoning the year from the winter solstice and made the commencement on January 1 for no better reason than the desire to inaugurate his reform with a new moon.

The Caesarian system, devised by the aid of Losigenses, constituted the ordinary year of 365 days, and the fourth or extraordinary year of 366. The subdivision of the year into months was similar to the present system. This division of time, though imperfect, is still practiced in Russia. The error was in giving the year 365¼ days, which is too much by 11 minutes. Pope Gregory XIII. ordered October 5, 1582, to be called the 15th, and that all centurial years which are not multiples of 400 years should not be leap years, which omission of three leap years in every 400 years gives the civil year an average length of 365 days, 5 hours, 49 minutes and 12 seconds, which still exceeds the true solar year by the fraction of second, which amounts to a day only in 3,866 years. The present, or Gregorian system, is used by all Christendom, except Russia. It was adopted by England in 1762, and by France in 1564.

Prior to the reformation of the calender by Julius Cæsar, and many centuries afterward, the methods of dividing time were various, complicated and imperfect. The moon was the planet which influenced and governed most nations, and gave rise to universal variances between the natural and civil year. The religious feasts of the Christian church are still regulated by the moon. The Council of Nice provided that Easter, the central point by which all other days in the church calender are fixed, should fall on the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after March 21. The complex method of making these lunar periods correspond with the civil year is evidence enough of the difficulty of arranging any system for the computation of time by the 'inconstant moon.' Our week and month are not natural divisions of time, though some ingenious efforts have been made to trace some connection between natural phenomena and the period of seven days."

Bob Toombs and Ben Wade.

Speaking of Toombs reminds me of the number of quarrels he had in the Senate with Ben Wade, and at one time especially, when he came very near having a duel. The homestead bill was under discussion, and Toombs had referred to it with a sneer as a measure for white paupers, when Wade arose and said: "Sir, you sneer at the homestead bill because it gives land to the landless, do you? What is your pet scheme? Buying Cuba, seizing negroes for the negroless! We will go to the country upon it." Shortly after this Wade made a speech in which he used language which almost, apparently, compelled Toombs to challenge him. Several friends of Wade went to him and begged him to desist, but the old man went on until Toombs announced his intention of bringing him to account. Upon this Wade quietly sat down, and the southern men looked at each other in surprise, as it was evident he had tried to provoke a quarrel with the Georgia fire-eater. That night a friend of Toombs, a senator of the United States, called upon Wade to know if he would retract the offensive words he had used.

"No, I won't take back a word!" was Wade's emphatic response.

"Then," said the friend of Mr. Toombs, "Senator Toombs will challenge you to mortal combat."

"This is just what I want and he might have got to this point without all this palaver."

"You cannot be in earnest, Mr. Wade," said the senator.

"Yes, I am, and for a reason. We Northerners do not want to fight. I am opposed to the code, and so are my constituents; but you

Recent Literature.

T. B. Peterson & Bros., Philadelphia, issue "Ishmael, or in the Depths," by Mrs Emma D. E. N. Southworth, which was originally published as a serial in the New York *Ledger* under another name. Those who are familiar with the stories of this authoress will be certain that it is a story which is fascinating to read. It shows how genius and a good heart may triumph over all untoward circumstances and bring victory. The volume is embellished by a fine steel engraving of Mrs. Southworth.

"Boy's Heroes," by E. E. Hale, is a handsomely illustrated volume, containing an account of those characters in history which usually challenge boys' admiration. After giving eleven of these stories which shows why each one was worthy to be considered a hero, a twelfth hero is invented by the author. This creation he names Ralph Allbrave, and it will interest boys to see what the author has made him, and in what situations he has placed him to exhibit all these several virtues and accomplishments. The book is published by D. Lathrop & Co., Boston.

The same house gives us "The Children of Westminster Abbey," written by Rose G. Kingsley, who is a daughter of the late Canon Kingsley and inherits much of her father's literary talent. This little volume is very interesting and the boy or girl who reads it will imbibe with the story a good deal of important English history which would hardly be found in text books. The volume opens with a brief history of the building, the abbey, with the numerous attendant legends, and very curious some of them are. There are thirty-two illustrations, which include views of various parts of the Abbey, inside and out, with noted monuments, effigies and portraits.

"The Philosophy of Education; or, the Principles and Practice of Teaching," by T. Yats, who is already known as the author of several educational works, is a little volume issued by E. L. Kellogg & Co., New York, which gives proof of a prolonged and faithful study of the subject by the author. It must prove of great interest to all who are engaged in the work. The author's object was to treat of the philosophy of education in connection with the practice of it. It discusses methods in a very clear and practical manner, and the book deserves a pleasant reception by the public.

G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, have "for the public who like a game of whist, a service by their issue of a book upon the subject, entitled "A Handbook of Whist," by "Major Tenace," which claims to be a ready reference manual of this really scientific game. The specific directions for play, which are to be found in the works of acknowledged masters of whist, are here condensed, and arranged into a system which is easily understood and learned by the student. Those fond of the game or desiring to learn it will be glad of this little manual.

Another little manual which will be welcomed by the lovers of social games of cards, is "Dick's Hand-Book of Cribbage," by William B. Dick, and published by Dick & Fitzgerald, New York. The little manual is very well gotten up and gives a good idea of the different varieties of the game and the laws that govern them.

Stall's Lutheran Year-Book for 1886, published by the author, and for sale by all Lutheran book stores in the United States, gives an exhibit of all branches of the Lutheran church in the United States and in the world, and is replete with statistical tables, and engravings of educational institutions. It contains the names and addresses of the 3,717 Lutheran ministers in the country, and is a book of 300 pages which sells for the nominal sum of 25 cents.

"Five Minute Recitations," selected and adapted by Walter K. Forbes, and published by Lee and Shepard, Boston, is a little book gotten up for use in schools and colleges. Any of the selections can be recited in five minutes, and in this respect the book is unique. The compiler is one whose long experience in teaching has caused him to know what are best liked by students and what will cause them to put forth their best efforts.

The same house issue the second part of "Parlor Varieties," which consists of plays, pantomimes and charades, by Emma E. Brewster and Lizzie B. Scribner. The variety given which affords such a range for selection will make the little pamphlet exceedingly welcome.

Another number of "The Reading Club," edited by George M. Baker and issued by Lee & Shepard, is just published. Like the others it consists of selections of prose and poetry, this time numbering 50. They are as well chosen as in the fifteen numbers preceding the present.

From J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, comes a little manual entitled "Epitome of Diseases of the Skin." It is an abstract of a course of lectures delivered in the University of Pennsylvania by Dr. Louis A. Duhring who has made a special study of skin diseases. It gives a good deal of useful information upon an important subject.

"Anecdotes of General Ulysses S. Grant," by J. L. Ringwalt, comes from the same house. They are designed to illustrate the hero's military and political career and his personal traits of character. Little of what is here has appeared in any book, and it will on this account be found very interesting.

E. L. Kellogg & Co., New York, publish No. 4 of "Reception Day," which is a collection of fresh and original dialogues, recitations, declamations, etc., for use in public and private schools. Those who have seen the preceding numbers will be glad to welthis one.

"Elizabeth, or The Exiles of Siberia," a tale from the French of Mme. Sophie Cottin, author of "Matilda, Princess of England," is issued by William S. Gottsberger, New York, in paper covers at 25 cents, which will place it in everybody's power to read this pretty and interesting story.

One of the most unique and striking illustrations of the growing importance of the Northwest in manufactures and the sources of wealth is the beautiful Christmas number of the *Northwestern Miller* of Minneapolis. Nothing finer in the way of typographical art, illustration and design has ever been issued from the periodical press of America. It covers over sixty pages with articles from some of the best known writers of the country. It is really a beautiful product of mechanical and literary taste.

The *New England Magazine* for January is the initial number of a new periodical which is the child of an old friend, the *Bay State Monthly*. The scope is enlarged to include all of New England, and from the number before us, there can be no question of its appealing to a large audience. Upon the handsomely designed covers are engraved the seals of each of the New England States, and its pages are profusely illustrated with engravings of unusual merit, the frontispiece being a superb line engraving, on steel, of Chief Justice Waite. The contents are exceedingly timely and readable, the articles being from good writers, and the subjects well chosen. It is published by the Bay State Monthly company, Boston, at $3 a year.

The Chinaman's Belief.

The Chinaman had for his counsel Mayor Kirkland, and for his interpreter James Radford. When asked if he believed in God, the Chinaman replied: "Me knowee God; he heapee good manee; Mr. Kirckland, he God; Mr. Jim Ladford, he God; Melican manee no foolee Chinaman on God—not much." Mayor Kirkland, enthused with his newly acquired divinity, made an eloquent appeal, and won the Chinaman's cause.—*Abilene (Tex.) Reporter.*

Musical Note.

Mrs. Fizzletop has been making an earnest effort to have her son Johnny taught to play on the piano. A few days ago Mrs. Fizzletop called up stairs:

"Why ain't you practicing your piece, Johnny?"

"I am."

"You are not. You haven't touched the piano in the last half hour."

"I've been practicing all the same. There are pauses in this march, and I am practicing them over and over until I know them perfectly."—*Texas Siftings.*

1885 REVIEWED.

What It Has Added to History—A Brief Sketch of the Progress of the Nations During the Past Year.

The year opened with trade, industry and business greatly depressed, not only in the United States, but among the commercial nations of Europe as well. During the months which have since passed there has been a gradual revival of trade, and industries have to some extent recovered from their depression. The situation is not yet all that could be wished, but it is universally admitted to be an improvement upon that of a year ago.

The crops in the United States have been most bountiful in character, especially the cotton and cereals, and this fact has tended to low prices, since in no other part of the world has there been any widespread failure of crops. The export demand for grains has been comparatively small, so that there has been a falling off instead of an increase in the value of our exports. If, however, we have sold less, we have bought less, and the balance of trade has been largely in our favor.

There has also been some increase in railroad building, and the revival of this great industry is looked for in the immediate future. The Canadian Pacific road has been completed; railway communication was opened from Cape Town to the South African diamond mines at Kimberly. The destiny of the Indies is felt to depend on railroads, and England and Russia are both diligently working in recognition of this fact. China has opened her doors to railway construction, and from all corners of the world there has come the intelligence of roads projected or in course of building. In Venezuela, eight or nine different lines of greater or less extent are under contract. Portugal has granted a concession for a railroad from Delagoa Bay, in East Africa, to the Transvaal border to connect with another which is to be built with German capital. Railroad earnings in the United States show an increase over the previous year.

There have been few marked events in the religious world, the more notable being the approval by the pope of the decrees of the plenary council of the Roman Catholic church of America, held in 1884, and which will naturally have a wide influence on the temporal economy of that church in the United States.

Temperance reformers claim that large advances have been made in their work. Those who look for its advancement through third political party action point to the increased vote polled by their party in Ohio and New York, while those who believe non-partisan and non-sectarian work the most efficient point to the victory gained in Atlanta, Ga., in November, which virtually places the Empire state of the South among the prohibitory states as one of the most pronounced achievements of the year.

Our northern neighbor, the Dominion, has experienced, on the whole, a troublesome year. Her finances have been far from satisfactory, the efforts of her premier, Sir John Macdonald, to improve them not meeting with desired success. That the deficit year by year increases is a source of dissatisfaction to her taxpayers. Her road to the Pacific has been completed, but it does not promise all the immediate returns that have been expected. In March the so-called Northwest rebellion broke out, under the leadership of a half-insane half-breed, Louis David Riel. There is little doubt the half-breeds in the Winnipeg country, and in the valley of the Saskatchewan especially, had endured grievous wrongs at the hands of the government, and had failed of securing redress. Gen. Middleton was sent with a force of regulars and militia to crush out the rebellion, but was unable to do so before the middle of May, when the rebels was defeated at Batouche, and on the 15th Riel himself was captured. He was subsequently tried for high treason, found guilty and afterwards hanged. Montreal has during the past autumn suffered to an almost untold extent from the scourge of smallpox, and the attempt to enforce compulsory vaccination met with the most determined opposition on the part of the French portion of the population.

During the early part of the year the finances of Mexico became much disorganized, largely owing to the aid which had been pledged to the different lines of railroad recently built. The revenues of the government had been set apart to such an extent to meet government obligations to the roads that Pres. Diaz found himself without the means of paying the ordinary expenses. A policy of retrenchment was begun. Salaries of officials were scaled down, and arrangements were made with the government's creditors which gave at least temporary relief without resort to repudiation. The part taken by Mexico in quelling the revolution which in the spring broke out in the Central American states was one highly honorable to herself. The first of December a revolution broke out within her own borders, the authorities of the state of Nuevo Leon finding themselves unable to maintain their authority, for a time surrendered to the dictation of revolutionists. The interposition of the federal power finally subdued the revolt, before much fighting had occurred or serious damage had been done.

With the Central American states the year has been one of revolution. Pres. Barrios of Guatemala attempted in the spring to carry into execution his scheme for a union of the five Central American states of Guatemala, San Salvador, Costa Rica, Honduras and Nicaragua. Had only a peaceful agitation of the question been resorted to, it is not improbable the union might have been brought about, but Barrios deeming that the time was ripe for his purposes, proclaimed himself the military dictator of Central America. His scheme came to an abrupt termination by his defeat and death in the first battle fought with the troops of San Salvador.

The Isthmus of Panama was also the scene of a rebellion, which broke out in January, the insurgents at first being uniformly successful, and driving the government authorities from Aspinwall or Colon, they reduced it to ashes. An United States marine force crushed out the rebellion, under the treaty with Columbia, by which we had undertaken to preserve for her the neutrality of the isthmus, in order that travel across it might be safe.

The most notable South American event of the year has been the rebellion which has been waged during nearly the whole year by General Caceres against the established government of Peru under Pres. Iglesias. A few weeks ago Caceres besieged and captured Lima, and Pres. Iglesias surrendered to him. A commission was named to take temporary charge of the government, amnesty was proclaimed, and the result of the election ordered to be held will be, of course, the election of Caceres to the presidency. Great progress toward the emancipation of the slaves has been made in Brazil during the year, and the days of this relic of barbarism are numbered. A revolution has also occurred in Venezuela during the year, but it was on a small scale, and was promptly put down by the government.

The year has been a notable one for Great Britain. It opened with the Wolseley expedition for the relief of Gordon. Khartoum fell into hands of the victorious Mahdi, Gordon was murdered, thousands of the bravest and best of the British troops were lost in this futile expedition, and the British army retired at last without glory, having suffered only defeat, leaving the Soudan in its fate. Russia seized her opportunity, and began planting her outposts nearer Herat and the gates of India. England protested and bluffered, diplomatic negotiations were entered into, preparations for war were made by both nations. On June 5 Gladstone announced in the House of Commons that England and Russia had come to an agreement on the boundary question, and that the points of difference were to be referred to arbitration. Englishmen felt that this agreement had been made only after Russia had gained all she desired for the present, and that Gladstone's timid, vacillating, hesitating policy was chiefly responsible for the humiliating position in which England found herself. Monday, June 8, on a motion for a second reading of the budget, the Gladstone ministry was defeated by a vote of 264 to 262, and the next day this was followed by resignation. The Marquis of Salisbury somewhat reluctantly consented to form a ministry. The position assumed by Lord Salisbury was a most delicate one, but he managed affairs with most consummate ability. Russia was soon brought to a more definite agreement, and the honor of England was partly retrieved. An appeal to the people was determined upon, and Parliament was prorogued and writs of election issued in November. Pending the election the expedition against Burmah occurred, which resulted most successfully. Theebaw, the blood-thirsty, inhuman monarch of that country, was overcome almost without a struggle, dethroned, and Burmah, as a British dependency, was added to the Eastern Empire of Victoria. The English elections in November were most exciting. The result was a Liberal plurality of some 70 over the Conservatives, but the balance of power, some 80 votes, was held by the Parnellites. Parnell has but one aim, home rule now, with ultimate independence for Ireland. It is not possible as yet to predict the outcome. Disestablishment has been again coming to the front as a live question, and the year has also been notable for the growth of radicalism.

The year opened darkly for France, her colonizing experiment in Tonquin having proven itself a most costly affair, and having involved her in a disastrous war with China. In March the ministry was overthrown in consequence of the defeat at Langson, and the Brisson cabinet was formed. Elections occurred in October for a new Chamber of Deputies, the method of *scrutin de liste* being employed by voters for the first time. The Conservatives or Monarchists made large gains. Two hundred or more of the latter were returned to the new Chamber of Deputies to some 370 Republicans. However, the future of the French republic seems brighter than at the beginning of the year. The Madagascar question is settled by the establishment of a French protectorate over the whole island and the payment to France of a war indemnity of 10,000,000 francs. M. Grevy has just been re-elected president for seven years.

The year with Russia has been one of aggrandizement, and there is little doubt she is nearer the realization of her dreams than a year ago. She has made a decided advance toward India, outwitting the Gladstone government at every turn. Nothing has been more evident than that she has been one of the powers behind the puppets in the recent Eastern war. While making ready for Asiatic conquest, she has also her eye on Constantinople.

Germany's policy has been to strengthen Germany, and this has been quietly pursued by Bismarck during the year 1885. She has added to some extent to her colonial possessions, the chief of these being the Samoan Islands, over which she has established a protectorate. The most notable incident growing out of her colonial policy was the Caroline Islands affair and the threatened trouble with Spain. The latter was averted by compromise and by the arbitration of the pope. The expulsion of foreigners from eastern Prussia has shown the tyrannical methods by which Bismarck governs.

The death in November of King Alfonso of Spain produced less of a crisis than might have been expected, and the year closes with the government running smoothly with the queen as regent. Spain gained prestige in the Caroline Islands affair, since the settlement was a practical acknowledgement that the German commander at Yap was wrong, and the Spanish naval and civil official right. However, the year closes with a dark outlook for her chief dependency, Cuba.

A crisis in Denmark, which bid fair to result in a revolution, was averted by promises of reform on the part of King Christian. Danish affairs are, however, in a bad way.

Italy has added somewhat to her African possessions, but she may, probably will, yet tire of colonial experiments. She refused to receive the minister sent her by the United States government, Mr. A. M. Keiley, and her example was afterwards followed by the government of Austro-Hungary, to the court of which Mr. Keiley was subsequently sent. Austria, like Russia, has not been an uninterested spectator of the Bulgarian-Servian war, and there is little doubt that Servia has acted under Austrian instructions.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES.

January 24 will be remembered for the terrific dynamite explosions which occurred in London, one in the parliament house buildings and the other in the tower. Both were greatly damaged. Cunningham and Burton were subsequently convicted as the dynamiters, and sentenced to penal servitude for life.

An international conference met in Berlin in February and decided to recognize the sovereignty of the African International association over the Congo country. The United States was represented at the conference, but participation in its proceedings has since been repudiated by the United States government.

The woman suffragists came very near scoring a victory in Nova Scotia. A bill extending the franchise to women was defeated in April by only one vote.

A volcanic eruption occurred in Java April 20. At least 100 lives were lost.

A long standing dispute between China and Japan regarding Corea was on the 3d of June amicably adjusted, both governments agreeing to withdraw their troops from the country.

The Vale of Cashmere was the scene of a serious earthquake in June, whole villages being engulfed. Over 300 lives were lost.

China came out of her war with France the gainer. She found that her troops could fight, and that she was able to resist occidental aggression. The treaty of peace was signed June 9.

Tremendous floods occurred in the province of Canton in China, in July, destroying life and property.

The Bartholdi statue of Liberty Enlightening the World, was formally received in New York on June 19.

Japan is satisfied with her experience with paper money and withdraws it from circulation with the close of 1885.

China lost 100,000 men and $190,000,000, and France 15,000 men and $215,000,000 during the Tonquin campaign.

The Panama canal appears to be in a bad way, and M. De Lesseps is endeavoring to negotiate another $100,000,000 loan.

An investigation had in February showed that the state of Kentucky had been systematically plundered by the officials to the amount of $2,000,000.

MR. M'KENZIE'S LUCKY HIT.

How He Obtained an Appropriation for Paducah by Unanimous Consent.

Congressman Payson, of Illinois, tells a good story about Jim McKenzie, the very bright and witty Kentuckian who formerly represented the Paducah district in the House. A bill which McKenzie had introduced for a public building at Paducah had been favorably reported by the committee. It was placed on the calendar, where, in all probability, it would remain forever unless some extraordinary effort was made to bring it before the House. McKenzie tried repeatedly to catch the Speaker's eye, but for some reason Randall chose to ignore him. The end of the session was gradually drawing near, and McKenzie began to grow desperate. One day, while the regular order of business was under consideration, McKenzie startled the House by rising to his feet and shouting:

"Mr. Speaker! I rise to a question of the highest privilege."

"The gentleman from Kentucky will state his question," answered Mr. Randall, turning in McKenzie's direction.

"My question, sir, involves a matter of the highest privilege—the right of a member to his seat."

This rather sensational announcement drew upon him the attention of the entire House. The silence which followed was broken again by McKenzie, who continued:

"I ask unanimous consent to take from the calendar House bill No. 14,796, and pass it under a suspension of the rules."

The calendar was hastily consulted, when it was discovered that House bill No. 14,796 provided for the erection of a public building at Paducah, Ky. Randall was furious with rage. "The gentleman from Kentucky forgets himself," he began, when McKenzie, with comical seriousness, interrupted him: "I spoke the plain unvarnished truth when I said the passage of the bill involved the right to my seat. If I don't succeed in securing the necessary appropriation, I need never expect to return to Congress again."

At this sally the House burst into a broad roar of laughter, whereupon Frank Hiscock, over on the Republican side, begged that Mr. McKenzie's request be complied with, and that unanimous consent be given to pass the bill. There were no objections, and within 60 seconds McKenzie secured what he had waited for months to accomplish.

—WEAK LUNGS AND SENSITIVE THROATS are severely tried by sudden changes of temperature, and those possessing them should prudently keep the very first symptoms of Cold. Dr. Jayne's Expectorant is well adapted to their needs, as a certain remedy for Coughs, besides being especially useful for its healing and strengthening effects on the Pulmonary and Bronchial Organs.

It Was the Day After Thanksgiving.

Miss Clara—Brother Jack told me of a lovely compliment paid me by young Mr. De Lyle. Miss Ethel—Indeed! What was it? Miss Clara—He said that I am as beautiful as a dream. Wasn't that nice in him? Miss Ethel (with a little cough)—Very. Was it the day after Thanksgiving that Mr. De Lyle made the remark?

Rheumatism.

There is no disease known to medical science that has given the profession so much trouble as rheumatism, and there is no complaint that is so painful or difficult to cure. Hence the great delight we feel in announcing the discovery of a medicine that not only cures promptly but permanently. It is called Durang's Rheumatic Remedy, and no one knows better than the editor of this great weekly paper, what its real merits are. It is taken internally because rheumatism is a disease of the blood and can only be reached by a medicine that acts directly on the system as this does. The price is one dollar a bottle or six bottles for five dollars. Before you buy write for our free 40 page pamphlet to R. K. Helphenstine, Druggist, Washington, D. C.

BLADE WHITTLINGS.

WHERE runs the line of demarcation between the use of the postal card and of a sealed letter? Some people put postal cards to the most absurd uses, writing on them of the most private and confidential themes; they are even used for love-letters in some instances. The real use of the postal card is for advertisements, announcements, notices of meetings, brief and unimportant matters that are not specially private, and short business notes. Wherever friendship, ceremony, strictly personal matters or important business topics are concerned, a sealed envelope is imperatively required, not only in the interests of a proper privacy, but as a matter of common respect. The foolish idea that because they are cheap they should be used in preference to anything else, should be eliminated from people's minds. It is a disrespect, sometimes even an insult, to use a postal card for any personal use what ever.

A NEW feminine freak has developed, if we are to believe a story told of a young lady of Washington city. She is the daughter of a distinguished naval officer, is, and has been, one of the leaders of the "healthy craze." She has the ruddiest pair of cheeks in Washington, and looks the perfect picture of health, but some of her friends have been investigating the matter, and find that she has persuaded an old sailor who had known her ever since she was a little girl, that she was unhappy, because she never could have any color in her face. She got him to tattoo her cheeks a delicate shade of red, and, although the operation was quite painful, she stood it bravely, and the consequence is she will have a red face, even after death. Some of the rest of the young ladies will go through the same course of treatment.

ONE of the little things that betray the lack of proper breeding is the habit of faultfinding at the food or service of a hotel or restaurant. Those who find the greatest fault are invariably the most poorly provided in their own homes. If they do not like the food, let them leave it. People are not forced to patronize that particular establishment. It is their own choice; then let them hold their tongues. Fault-finders have no right to monopolize a table conversation. It is always the cheap traveler who growls the loudest and longest.

WHY do fashionable mothers—the mothers of society young ladies—countenance the fashion of low-necked dresses? Our girls in the social whirl get rid of their early modesty very quickly, and nothing aids the loss more than the *decolleté* dress. And it is not much wonder, when every man a young lady meets at fashionable gatherings can have the privilege of gazing at her waistband from the inside if he chooses to glance over her shoulder.

CLOSE observation of the fairer sex will convince one of the fact that girls really have lots of sense, taking them in a bunch. There are the silly ones, of course, but they form a small percentage of the total of giridom. Girls are accused of striving to marry. This is a chimera of the masculine brain that will not out. The general run of girls don't care a fig about marrying. If they know many young men, they care less about it than a fig. For one thing, they have a better time while single; for another, they would not take one of the average matrimonial masculine aspirants. The pantalooned pets who consider themselves prize packages should get behind the curtains when the girls are confabbing. They would soon have the conceit taken out of their shallow pates that all of the aforesaid sex were endeavoring to entrap them. Their ears would burn, if the conversation drifted about to the topic of young men!

DR. HAMMOND comes forward with the delightful prediction that in, say one thousand years, mankind (and womankind, too) will be bald—hairless, in fact. He bases his proposition upon his observation of the steady increase of baldness, without even expressing an opinion whether the decline of hair will be a blemish or an ornamentation. This may be an advantage in a few instances—take the case of a man whose tartar of a wife uses his capillary covering to obtain a firm hold while she enforces domestic discipline; and it will take away reproach from the gentlemen who frequent the front rows of a theater to gaze upon the beauties of the ballet. Should this calamity come to pass, however, yere fancy Dame Fashion will meet it by decreeing that Japanese head adornments are the lum-tum caper.

GIVE THE BOYS A CHANCE.

Anecdotes That Keep Alive Faith in Human Nature.

Frank and trustworthy boys carry their honesty on their faces; and when such are needed for service, or desire any favor, an intelligent person is not only excusable for putting faith in them, but may confer a benefit by doing so. A gentleman of wealth and high official position says:

Somewhat more than fifty years ago I was appointed midshipman in the navy, and sent to New York. I was only 14 years old, and being of a delicate make and small stature did not look more than 11. My previous life had been spent in the country, and I knew nothing of city ways and business proceedings. Payday was the 30th of the month, but I wanted some money on the 20th, and passing through Wall street I went into a broker's office and said:

"You loan money here, do you not?"

"Yes."

"I want to borrow $20 for ten days," I said.

I did not then understand the quizzical manner with which the broker looked at me before replying:

"You shall have it, and I won't charge you any interest for it either."

He gave me the money and I signed the receipt; and I need not add, the twenty dollars were promptly returned at the expiration of ten days. I am sorry that I have forgotten the name of the broker. I mentioned the incident many years afterward to a gentleman who said it was the most extraordinary story he had ever heard of a Wall street broker, of all men.

Another case happened in Washington about fifteen years ago. I was standing on the porch of Willard's hotel, when a little boy with a bright, honest face said to me:

"Please, sir, lend me twenty-five cents to set me up in business. I want to buy some newspapers to sell."

I replied:

"My boy, I haven't got 25 cents, but here are 50 cents, and when you want to return it, you will find me at this hotel."

"Thank you," said the little lad, "I will bring it back."

I never expected to see him or the money again and considered it a donation; but in the evening, as I was walking up and down in the entrance hall, my coat was pulled by a little newsboy, and I turned and beheld the youngster who had applied for a loan in the morning, with the same bright face that had attracted me then.

"Well, my little man, what is it?" I said, as though I didn't know him.

"I have brought back your 50 cents, sir," said he, "and I am ever so much obliged to you. I have made more than a dollar clear profit with your money."

—We cannot deny that there are cough mixtures which are injurious because they contain opium. But Red Star Cough Cure has no dangerous ingredients. It is prompt, safe and sure; only twenty-five cents a bottle.

The Mother's "Yes."

One day last week there were "three vacant chairs" in one of the fourth grade classes of a large school in this city. It was discovered that the absentees had been playing truant. Two of them succumbed to evidence, and pleading guilty, met with due punishment from the official rattan. But the third stoutly maintained that he had acted by his mother's permission. The mother was sent for and was compelled to implicate her darling in a falsehood. Turning to that young reprobate, she said in a tone of tearful remonstration: "How could you say such a thing? The idea of my telling you to run away from school!" "Yes, mamma, you did. Don't you remember? I asked you if I couldn't 'play hookey' with two other boys, and you said yes, I might, if wouldn't hurt myself." And so she had, as she was obliged to confess. She had innocently taken "playing kookey" to imply some boyish game.—*San Francisican.*

—Recognizing the superior excellence of the St. Louis Magazine, we have arranged to furnish it with the WEEKLY BLADE at the low price of $1.75 a year for both publications, the Magazine, under its large and improved condition, being $1.50 alone. Sample copy of Magazine and set of beautiful gold colored picture cards sent to any one for 10 cents. Address C. J. Gilmore, 213 N Eighth street, St. Louis, Mo.

Why Jews Live So Long.

The *New England Medical Monthly* comments very favorably on the proverbial long and healthful lives of the Jews. Dr. Picard holds that this superiority is due to their stringent health laws. The Mosaic, like the older Egyptian code, is very stringent regarding the eating of flesh and other articles of food. Of the animals examined, a large proportion is always condemned as unfit for food. People who eat meat indiscriminately are very prone to disorders of the blood, and of the kidneys, for meat is composed of nitrogen, which the kidneys have to remove from the blood, and of course they cannot do this successfully except by the aid of Warner's safe cure, the best kidney strengthener, unless it is temperately partaken of and only the very best meat is used. Jews also use alcoholic liquors very sparingly and thus keep up good digestion, and then again they are a holiday loving and Sabbath observing class. —*Housekeeper.*

TOBOGGANING.

A Description of the Favorite Winter Sport in Canada.

To the uninitiated a few words about Canada tobogganing slides may be interesting. Ice palaces and torchlight processions have attracted people to Montreal, but what has held them for days has been the sport of tobogganing. For little else does young Montreal of both sexes live during the winter. There are six very popular and as many more minor club slides, which might almost be called public, and are fully so during carnival week, besides a great number of private slides. The Tuque Blue is of all the most frequented, being situated in the best part of the city. It is an artificial hill, the slope of chutes at the beginning of the run being supported by trestle-work, rising to a height of 40 feet. The grade is about one in ten, the run on the level extending the slide to a total length of 450 yards. A platform is laid on the trestle-work, and the even slope thus formed is divided into five grooves, each about four feet wide, made by bolting heavy scantling longitudinally and continuously from the ground to the summit level. As snow would not lie on the platform under much usage, it is thickly covered with ice by pouring on water, which freezes, and is often renewed. Besides the slide, on the same slope are two paths for ascent, made by nailing cleats for footholds. Beside each is a slide, just wide enough to accommodate the toboggans, which their owners have to draw up. On the summit is a flat platform, which enables those participating in the sport to pass around the head of the chute and reach either. At the entrance to each is a platform on which the toboggan rests while being loaded, and there a committeeman stands to prevent one party following another too soon for safety.

The toboggan is a long sled without runners, which lies flat upon the snow. It is made of thin ash, and is usually eight feet long by eighteen inches wide, and curled up at the prow. Being made to glide upon the surface of light snow, it was used in winter time and is still used by the Indians for transporting their effects; for a man upon snowshoes dragging a toboggan can go across country and take with him an astonishing quantity of stuff. For sliding down hill, the lady, when there is not a small boy or girl in the party, sits in front and the gentleman sits or kneels behind and steers. The course is soon over, but the process of dragging the vehicle up hill is enlivened by conversation, and is seldom tedious.

He Suffered Little Children.

There is a touch of human nature in the colloquy thus reported by the Boston *Courier:*

Deacon White (who is a property-owner and runs a real estate agency)—Good morning, Deacon Blank.

Deacon Blank—Good morning. I thought I would drop in and ask you how you liked the new minister yesterday. Fine sermon, wasn't it?

Deacon White—Excellent. Never heard a better. He is a very eloquent man and is very happy in the selection of his subjects.

Deacon Black—Remarkably so. Sermon on subject that touch the sympathies are better for us all than the discussion of points of doctrine.

Deacon White—Certainly. What could be happier than this subject yesterday, "Suffer little children to come unto me?" How tenderly he spoke of the little ones! I declare it melted my heart to hear him——

(Enter a lady who has business with Deacon White.)

Deacon White—Well, ma'am, what can I do for you?

Lady—Have you got any houses to let?

Deacon White—Yes'm.

Lady—I'm looking 'round to find a good house at a reasonable rent.

Deacon White—Have you any children?

Lady—Yes.

Deacon White—Then I can't let you have a house. Don't want any children in my houses.

Lady takes her leave and the deacons resume their conversation on the sermon.

Cure for the Deaf.

Peck's patent Improved cushioned ear drums perfectly restore the hearing and perform the work of the natural drum. Always in position, but invisible to others, and comfortable to wear. All conversation and even whispers heard distinctly. We refer to those using them. Send for illustrated book with testimonials free. Address F. Hiscox, 853 Broadway, N. Y. Mention this paper.

TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

Facts and Figures About Large Business Interests.

There is a cabbage farm near Chicago, the largest in the world, which covers 160 acres. It takes 1,114,000 plants to set the tract.

A party of local capitalists have organized the Cleveland Gas Fuel company, with a capital of $300,000. The company will furnish natural gas.

Within the limits of Washington territory are 23,000,000 acres of land yet unsurveyed, of which at least 10,000,000 acres are excellent agricultural lands, well timbered. The territory has a population of about 140,000, and a valuation of over $57,000,000.

We have accounts of sixteen new natural gas companies that have been incorporated in Ohio within the past 30 days. We do not claim that the list is a complete one, but it simply goes to show how the roll is increasing.

More Lake Superior iron ore was sold the past year than ever before in the history of that industry, the sale aggregating 2,858,456 tons. There remained at the close of navigation on dock at Lake Erie ports, 1,048,940 tons, of which all but 150,000 tons were sold.

Railroad ties need repairing every three years. In building a new road the estimate is 2,700 ties for each mile. It is safe to say that it will require 300 ties per mile per year to keep a road in repair. From 12,000,000 to 15,000,000 new ties are required by the railroads of the United States every year.

The manufacture of iron pipes is being wonderfully accelerated by the demand that has sprung up in using natural gas. It is estimated that by the end of the year 1885, an aggregate of not less than 500 miles of pipes will have been laid for conveying the gas from the wells to Pittsburg and Allegheny.

During the past week two conventions of tobacco dealers and growers have been held, one at Baltimore and the other at Lancaster. At the former one a resolution was passed asking Congress to fix the duty on common tobacco at $1 on unstemmed and $1.25 on stemmed wrappers, while all other tobaccos should remain at 35 cents a pound. The second convention at Lancaster agreed upon the following amendment to the United States statutes to be presented to Congress: "All leaf tobacco contained in any package, bale, box or in bulk, any part of which is suitable for wrappers, if not stemmed $1.50 per pound, if stemmed $2 per pound on the whole contents of such package, bale, box, or bulk of tobacco."

CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired, from practice, having had placed in his hand by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints, after having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, has felt it his duty to make it known to his suffering fellows. Actuated by this motive, and a desire to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge, to all who desire it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail by addressing with stamp, naming this paper. W. A. NOYES, 149 Powers Block, Rochester, N. Y.

The Camp Fire.

Chat Around the Fire.

D. J. J. Hornback, Co. E, 14th Ills., Kennesaw, Neb.:

To-day we are called on to raise our voice in defense of the freedom of the ballot box and against frauds in the South. Let us rise in our might as one man and say every one to our congressmen, let no man enter the halls of Congress who receives his commission by fraud or intimidation in the North, South East or West. These frauds strike at the very heart of this nation. Elect no man to Congress who will suffer such frauds without using every honorable means to prevent them. All honor to the BLADE for its manly fight for justice, morality and truth in all the questions of the day.

Ettie Dixon, DuBois, Pa.:

My papa was in the army. He enlisted in 1863 and served till the war was over. He was in Co. I, 148th Pa. He was in the battle of Gettysburg and many others.

W. F. Treloff, Co. I, 105 h Ohio.:

I remember the time when we used to burn cedar rails in Kentucky and Tennessee at the expense of the Southern Confederacy. Do not some of you boys remember while at Chattanooga, Tenn., in the winter of '63 and '64 when the Johnnies had us hemmed in for two months and we were cut down to quarter rat ous, and were obliged to eat parched corn to satisfy our hunger, unless we had plenty of money and could pay one dollar a loaf for a of bread, one dollar a pound for butter, and fifty cents for a beef's head and everything else accordingly. We were kept at work on the fortifications every day when not on picket, and do some of you remember how we used to hug the ground when the rebels shelled us occasionally from Lookout mountain, and what a relief it was to us when Joe Hooker drove them off and we took Missionary Ridge on November 23, 1863, and it seems but a short time ago to me when on New Years night, 1864, I stood picket in front of Fort Wood with the mercury at 28 degrees below zero, without being relieved, no shelter and no fire allowed. We may forgive but we can never forgot the hardships that we have endured, and has it all been for naught? I hope not. The government has been very liberal to most of us and let us be thankful. I served three years during the war and three after, and should my country need me again I am ready, bounty or no bounty. I am in favor of prohibition and Gen. Logan for our next President.

D. D. B., Glen Elder, Kan.:

I belonged to the 1st Michigan cavalry—company C—and, though I never fired a gun at a rebel, I have fired several votes at those since the war. During the war I was a bugler and on detail as a doctor's orderly most of the time, and at some of the officers' headquarters the rest in the same capacity.

I have traveled over a greater part of the South during the war, and could answer many of the questions in regard to climate, soil, etc., that have been asked in the BLADE. I will tell how I received my political bias, as my folks were all Democrats before the war, and I was 16 years old when enlisted. I read the *Inter-Ocean*, *National Tribune*, Detroit *Commercial Advertiser* and the BLADE, and think the BLADE the best and most useful and moral paper I read. My subscription is perpetual—as long as it continues as good. Should like a splinter from any of Custer's old Michigan brigade to read in CAMP FIRE.

William Defenbaugh, Co. G, 113th Ohio, Seely, Kan.:

I have seen but few correct accounts of the battle of Bentonville. M. D. Sterrett, 121st Ohio, of Oct. 8, is as correct as any that I have seen. Burning of the front was truly an acorn run, then Gen. Ward was right. The 2nd Div., 14th A. C., built three lines of works on March 19, 1865, and, as it always did, ended the fight on the front line. If Gen. Ward had imitated the 14th with a star run, he would have been up in time to have protected the 1st Div., 14th A. C., from a flank movement which caused a slight turn of the left. If Rosencrans could only have had the men at Chicamauga that Grant had at Mission Ridge, with Longstreet's corps away, Bragg's army on Sept. 21, 1863, would have been an object of pity, if such they deserved. Who took Chattanooga with a handful of men, so that Grant could get at Mission Ridge? Honor to whom honor is due. Will the BLADE and its writers remember that Thomas and Rosencrans were overpowered by Longstreet, from Virginia. My first vote was for Lincoln, my last for Blaine, Boys, is that voting as you shot? I want my pay in gold.

J. F. Darnal, 10th Tenn., Belfast, Tenn.:

Here I come boys with a cedar rail to replenish the CAMP FIRE. I am away down south here among the Democrats. Our county gave Blaine 850 votes last year and will give Logan more than that in 1888. Keep the CAMP FIRE burning, boys, if you have to throw on a hickory rail. I chopped telegraph poles at 60 cents a day in order to send for the BLADE next year, for I could not do without it.

William Arch, Montgomery, Mich:

I was in the 38th Ohio three years, and was discharged at Atlanta, Ga., by reason of the expiration of term. I had my hip broken by the fall of a tree near Wildcat, Ky., and get a pension of $6 per month. I went out a Democrat because father was, and came back a black Republican, and remain so yet, because I think that's right. Oh, how I wish that the editor would allow us more space for the boys' CAMP FIRE. I was at West Unity, Ohio, to a reunion, in September last, and saw lots of the boys.

M. Boyer, Co. I, 13th Ind., Hart's Mills, Kan.:

I see so much talk about "Voting as you shot." I am like Mr. K., I think it is time to make use of some other expression. I think from the results of the last election that a great many boys did vote as they shot, from the following reasons: During the siege of Suff

Question Bureau.

1. The true name and postoffice address must be given in all cases. The first when specially required, or we will not be published.

2. No attention will be paid to matters of a personal character, or theological construction, or inquiries regarding the reliability of individuals, firms or corporations.

3. The Question Bureau of this department must be written on a separate sheet, directed to "The Question Bureau," and contain not more than three questions. Do not ask a question and expect to get it. If we can answer it, and it is considered of general interest, it will be answered. If it is desired to receive an answer in the next issue." The question bureau is always inspected and we are usually two or three weeks behind.

4. This department is not intended to settle disputes or decide bets. Replies to questions intended to be of general interest, and no other, will be answered in reply. As all matter for this department passes through the hands of one person, he is the best judge of what shall and what shall not be answered. Do not request an answer by mail.

5. No question will receive the slightest attention unless the above and third rules above strictly complied with.

ENGLISH SOVEREIGNS.

J. F. R., St. Anthony, Iowa:

Please give the names of the English sovereigns, date of reign, and their relation to the preceding ruler and successor.

The list is as follows:

Before the Conquest.

827. Egbert, styled "King of England" in
857. Ethelwolf, his son.
857. Ethelbald, his son.
860. Ethelbert, brother.
866. Ethelred, brother.
871. Alfred the Great, brother.
901. Edward the Elder, son.
925. Athelstan, eldest son.
940. Edmund I., Anderson of Edward the Elder.
946. Edred, brother.
955. Edwy, eldest son of Edmund.
958. Edgar the Peaceable, brother.
975. Edward the Martyr, son.
979. Ethelred II. half brother.
1013. Sweyn proclaimed king.
1014. Canute the Great, his son.
1016. Ethelred restored in Canute's absence.
1016. Edmund Ironside, his son.
1017. Canute sole king.
1035. Harold I., natural son.
1039. Hardicanute, son of Canute and Emma.
1041. Edward the Confessor, son of Ethelred and Emma.
1065. Harold II., son of Earl Godwin.

The Normans.

1066. William the Conqueror.
1087. William II., Rufus.
1100. Henry I., Beauclerc, his brother.
1135. Stephen of Blois, nephew of Henry I.

The Plantagenets.

1154. Henry II., grandson of Henry I. and Maud.
1189. Richard I., his son.
1199. John, the brother of Richard.
1216. Henry III., his son.
1272. Edward I., son of Henry.
1307. Edward II., son of Edward I.
1327. Edward III., his son.
1377. Richard II., son of the Black Prince, and grandson of Edward III.

House of Lancaster.

1399. Henry IV., cousin of Richard II.
1413. Henry V., his son.
1422. Henry VI., his son.

House of York.

1461. Edward IV.
1483. Edward V., his son.
1483. Richard III., brother of Edward IV.

House of Tudor.

1485. Henry VII.
1509. Henry VIII., his son.
1547. Edward VI., son of Henry VIII.
1553. Jane, daughter of the Duke of Suffolk, wife of Lord Guilford Dudley.
1553. Mary, daughter of Henry.
1558. Elizabeth, daughter of Henry.

House of Stuart.

1603. James I. of England and VI. of Scotland, son of Mary, Queen of Scots.
1625. Charles I., his son.

Commonwealth.

1649. Oliver Cromwell made Protector.
1658. Richard Cromwell, his son.
1660. Charles II., son of Charles I.
1685. James II., his brother.
1689. William III.
1702. Anne, daughter of James II.

House of Hanover.

1714. George I.
1727. George II., his son.
1760. George III., grandson of George II.
1820. George IV., his son.
1830. William IV., brother of George IV.
1837. Alexandrina Victoria, only daughter of Edward, Duke of Kent, son of George III., succeeded to the throne on the decease of her uncle William IV., June 20, 1837; crowned at Westminster, June 28, 1838; married (February 10, 1840) her cousin, Francis Albert Augustus Charles-Emmanuel, duke of Saxe, prince of Saxe-Coburg and Gothe; born August 26, 1819; ordered June 20, 1855, to be styled Prince Consort; received degree of D. C. L. at the University of Cambridge, February 28, 1847; died December 14, 1861.

TENNESSEE.

X., Oberlin, O.:

Please give a short description of the state of Tennessee, climate, soil, mountains and rivers.

The BLADE has at different times published descriptive letters from Tennessee. Here is one, from Crossville in regard to the Cumberland plateau: You probably imagine the plateau to be rough and almost mountainous, but the country which land is generally level, broken only by the deep cuts of streams, which are usually narrow, and those of which are filled with rich alluvial soil. Equal Ohio in producing corn and wheat, it will excel it in producing potatoes and vegetables. Apples, grapes and melons never fail, and 200 bushels of potatoes is a common yield. The most common grasses sown are timothy and clover, which are sown in the fall and spring up in April, and last until December. During this time no attention is paid to stock, except to salt once a week. It is better to feed cattle three to four months in the winter, but stock frequently winters on the range without any attention. Water, pure and limpid, is found in every where in abundance, and there is scarcely a farm out has a chalk bluff on it. The climate is healthful, the elevation of the plateau being 2,000 feet above sea level—is an effectual preventative against malaria, and the wheat case of chills can resist for a short time only. The dry, pure, bracing air of the plateau is almost unknown and to the suffering from weak lungs I know of no place where they would stand a better chance of recovery. This county is the second in size in the state, and contains about 400,000 acres, a little more than 300,000 is as yet unincluded. This vast body of land is used as a free range, and held in common. There is no government land here, but it can be bought cheaply as a rule. As the land-holders are interested in settling up and will sell unimproved lands very cheap. Improved farms can be bought at all sizes and at all prices. There are many improved farms for sale here at a little half by buying one from year to year renting land from others. To such who wish to have a home of their own that will be constantly growing in value, I would say that the prospects offered are if not superior advantages to any other in the United States. Five hundred dollars will buy a man a home, and he will then have the satisfaction of feeling safely anchored. To those who are afraid of the ostracism said to be in vogue against them in the South, I would say that during the war this section was Union in sentiment, and to-day it is Republican."

STARCH.

O. J. H., Mancelona, Mich.:

Can you give me the process of manufacturing potato starch?

Potato starch is made from rasped or grated potatoes by a process similar to that employed in converting grain into starch. Starch may be obtained by rasping, burning or grinding potatoes, separating the starchy portion by water, and washing it into a vat, which receives the torn cellular tissue, or the gluten, while the starch passes through with the dissolved sugar and is precipitated. It is then washed, dried, ground, sifted or edulcrated, and washed and dried. The following table shows the percentage of starch in various kinds of food, according to Payen:

Wheat	57	58 Potatoes	20
Rye	56	60 Sweet potatoes	25
Oats	6	50 Peas	35
Barley	66	4 Beans	38
Indian corn	66	50 Flaxseed	11
Rice	81	11 Chestnuts	50

Starch is extracted from grain by two principal processes, the old fermenting, and the new or non fermenting process. In employing the fermenting process the grain is steeped in water until it becomes soft enough to mash easily between the fingers. It is then passed through a malt mill or between rollers, and again mixed with water. Fermentation sets in and lactic and acetic acids are formed, which dissolve the gluten, the cellular structure and liberate the starch granules. These are collected by repeated washings and precipitations, the process being continued for several days. The gluten undergoes putrefaction, becoming a most offensive odor. The sugar and a portion of the starch are converted into alcohol, and a part of the latter into lactic and acetic acids, which dissolve the gluten and thus have escaped putrefaction. The starch is then thoroughly washed and draining removes the soluble matters, and the starch left behind is next dried in blocks about six inches square; as the water escapes from them, they break up into the columnar fragments peculiar to starch.

CHARLES F. ADAMS.

G. F., Rhodes, Ia.:

Please give us full a description as possible of the system of our land surveys. 2. Where is the Nautical Almanac published, and what is the price of it? 3. Give a brief sketch of the life of Charles Adams.

1. Given quite recently. 2. Published in London; do not know the price. 3. Born in Boston, August 18, 1807. Harvard University, 1825. His boyhood was passed with his father at Ste. Petersburg, Russia, and Washington. On the mission to England in 1815, he was placed at school there until his return home in 1817. He studied law in the office of Daniel Webster, and was admitted to the bar, but never has practiced. In 1829 he married the youngest daughter of P. C. Brooks, a Boston millionnaire. Representative in the legislature of Massachusetts, 1831-37. Elected to congress in 1838 as Whig party, he was, in 1848, the candidate of the newly-organized Free Soil party for Vice President. In 1845 he edited at Boston a daily paper which prepared the way for the present Republican party. Member of Congress for the district so long represented by his father, 1859-61, and from March, 1861, to February, 1863, minister to Great Britain, a position which he had held by his father's and grandfather before him. This post was, during the great rebellion, an exceedingly trying one; but he acquitted himself with great credit. He was a contributor to the North American Review and to the *Christian Examiner*, and has edited his grandfather's collected writings, with a memoir by himself, in ten volumns, 8vo; "Letters of Mrs. Adams," fourth edition, 1848; and "Letters of John Adams addressed to his Wife;" also a "Life of John Adams," two volumes, 1870.

MICHIGAN.

M. H., Kirksville, Mo.:

Please give the details concerning the admission of Michigan as a state.

In 1819 the territory was authorized by act of Congress to send a delegate to that body, and the right of suffrage extended to all taxable citizens. In 1819, 1821 and 1836 the Indians made important territorial cessions, and by the time all the lower peninsula and a part of the upper were freed from Indian title. In 1836 Wisconsin territory was formed from the western portion of Michigan. This region had been annexed to the original territory of Michigan partly in 1818 and partly in 1834. Up to 1823 the legislative power was entrusted to the governor and judges; but in that year Congress [illegible] nine citizens.

The BLADE does not pay for volunteer items of any kind. If poems, stories or [illegible] are sent to us, we will use them; if not, they will be returned only if [illegible] allowed for that purpose. We will [illegible] preserve ANY MSS., and we will not [illegible] for any sent us.

SILVER AND GOLD.

Harmoniously Married for the Late Parting Company.

BY F. J. SCOTT.

The why may be found in the [illegible] of a few great nations, and all [illegible] teen years.

Germany, a despotism, the U[illegible] a democracy, sandwiched wi[illegible] aristocracy, have been pushe[illegible] ingly and unknowingly, to do t[illegible]

In previous papers I have stated too patent to need to be argued [illegible] ligent man, that nine-tenths of [illegible] either metal comes from its [illegible] Strike at that use for either, or [illegible] even threaten to lessen it, and [illegible] the same as if by the enactment against the use of corn for food, fol[illegible] ing a panicky belief in its unwh[illegible] we should thus lessen its use, d[illegible] value, and at the same time ra[illegible] of the grains which would take [illegible] Even prospective disuse produces [illegible] diate loss of some parts of them[illegible] the extent of the fall will be p[illegible] to the extent of the disuse probable. Look at the following [illegible] compiled down to 1830 from the [illegible] nent German authority, Soetbeer, [illegible] 1830 from English authority.

RATIO OF SILVER TO GOLD FOR [illegible] YEARS.

	Annually.	Highest.	Lowest.	Extreme variation.
1687-1720		14.81	15.02	1-21
1721-1760		14.81	15.09	1-28
1761-1800		14.14	15.55	2-1/2
1801-1830		14.12	16.00	1-88
1687-1830		14.11	16.25	2-14
1803-1830		15.70	15.96	25
1809-1840	Eng.			
1809-1840	"	15.79	15.82	31
1840-1850	"	15.70	15.93	23
1850-1860	"	15.19	15.59	40
1850-1870	"	15.19	15.60	41
1871	(Prof. Laughlin, Harv'd Univ.)			
1872	"	"	"	
1873	"	"	"	
1874	"	"	"	
1875	"	"	"	
1876	"	"	"	
1877	"	"	"	
1878	"	"	"	
1879	"	"	"	
1880	"	"	"	
1881	"	"	"	
1882	"	"	"	
1883	"	"	"	
1884	"	"	"	
1885	"	"	"	
1886	"	"	"	
1887	"	"	"	
1888	"	"	"	

Estimate

Observe what rapidity and [illegible] fall from 1871 to the present time in silver demonetization began in [illegible] that government did not get [illegible] old silver in readiness to throw [illegible] market until a few years later. [illegible] States consummated its undermining in silver in 1873 but it was again se[illegible] before its effects began to be felt. [illegible] have worked together, they have [illegible] native. They have shrunk silver [illegible] gold. For what good? For who[illegible] I omitted to mention Sweden [illegible] the countries which joined with [illegible] to demonetize silver.

France immediately after her [illegible] Germany (1871) had to pay $1,000,000,000 to Germany. Of this, $54,000,000 was paid in French gold and a large [illegible] the remainder in gold drawn [illegible] nations. The latter then had [illegible] $375,000,000 silver coins in use, [illegible] set about withdrawing from her [illegible] to sell to some other people. [illegible] had got in $270,000,000, had sold $1[illegible] and had the remainder on hand [illegible] the market with. But her sales [illegible] silver to drop that soon she was [illegible] high price for gold. The curiosity [illegible] presented itself a few years after [illegible] that the nation, which paid out a [illegible],000 as a war tribute, was prospering [illegible] rich at home as ever, while the nation [illegible] received the tribute, and [illegible] out her silver to get more gold wasting unprosperous and poor!

If, as the facts above so clearly [illegible] legislation has caused the fall of [illegible] it not a suicidal policy for our co[illegible] join in the crusade to raise the price [illegible] and to debase its own coin? Will[illegible] a suicidal policy *not to reverse these legislation;* in other words, by a bet[illegible] to stand by her old silver-un[illegible] and sell gold while it brings the h[illegible] price it now commands?

Legislation has been the great and [illegible] depreciating silver to raise gold, [illegible] people now use it to restore the bu[illegible] power between them. Legislat[illegible] shrunken the length of the silver [illegible] and expanded the gold one. Re[illegible] legislation and the two will soon [illegible] equalize. The old silver-unit, the [illegible] dollar, free coinage alike for gold [illegible] ver, and a copious export of gol[illegible] justice and bring prosperity. Are [illegible] the value of gold, and destroying [illegible] silver is a monstrous injustice pu[illegible] bring only adversity.

A BASELESS CLAIM.

The $50,000,000 Raid on the United States Treasury, Founded on Misconception of the Law.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

I have read in the BLADE an account of a raid on the treasury, under an act to the tune of $50,000,000, which [illegible] to fight through the circulars of a claim agents at Washington, and [illegible] widows of soldiers all over this country, forming them that they are entitled to receive on account of the deceased [illegible] sum of money, not in the nature of [illegible] sion, amounting to between $400 [illegible] and offering to prosecute the claim [illegible] contingent fee of 25 per cent. [illegible] scheme for the $15,000,000 of fees [illegible] tain, the claim agents at Washington [illegible] issued another circular to attorneys [illegible] prosecute claims for soldiers and the [illegible] in different states to join in the [illegible] with whom they will divide the [illegible] ing prosecuted soldiers' claims, [illegible] ceived one of their circulars. It [illegible]

"These claims arise under an act of Congress passed many years ago, their [illegible] was incorporated by the compiler [illegible] Revised Statutes, numbered [illegible] It is needless for us to state that [illegible] not engaged in this matter without [illegible] vice of the most eminent counsel [illegible] country, who have been retained to assist in bringing these claims to a [illegible] issue. We believe that every dollar [illegible] claims can and will be collected, and invite your active co-operation.

"For your assistance in the matter [illegible] willing to allow you one-third of [illegible] all claims you may be able to [illegible] which will average $40 to you [illegible] claim. As these cases must go to [illegible] and the expense of litigation is to [illegible] by us, this will make an equitable [illegible] of the proceeds, and we believe it [illegible] you to make an energetic canvass [illegible] own beats in your vicinity.

"While it may appear to you that [illegible] can prosecute these cases without [illegible] when you consider that all the delay [illegible] the prosecution, and the various [illegible] tions that we are likely to meet [illegible] courts are known to us and [illegible] alone, and we alone are prepared [illegible] them successfully, you can but see [illegible] will be much more liberally remunerated [illegible] for your trouble by working this [illegible] than if you attempted it by yourself [illegible] that you will have to do is to look [illegible] send us the claims and receive your [illegible] we have examined this matter [illegible] come to the opinion that the Waste [illegible] claim agents have made a very stupid [illegible] der of the law in force, or else they [illegible] connive in the national service, and a few others], on condition of their taking a pre[illegible] sed share, fool the constitution and the Union and all acts of Congress and proclamations of the President respecting slavery, so far as not modified or declared void by the supreme court. The act of July 17, 1862, as law was repealed in June, 1864, and about the same time, in an interview with some gentlemen from the West, Mr. Lincoln said: "There have been men base enough in this case to turn to slavery our black warriors of Port Hudson and Olustee, and thus win the respect of the masters they fought. Should I do so, I should deserve to be damned in time and eternity. Once what will I will keep my faith with friend and foe. My enemies pretend I am now carrying on this war for the sole purpose of abolition. So long as I am President it shall be carried on for the sole purpose of restoring the Union; but no human power can subdue this rebellion without the use of the emancipation policy and every other policy calculated to weaken the moral and physical forces of the rebellion." The annual message to Congress (December 6, 1864) closed with this paragraph: "In presenting the abandonment of armed resistance to the national authority on the part of the insurgents as the only indispensable condition to ending the war on the part of the government, I retract nothing heretofore said as to slavery. I repeat the declaration made a year ago, that while I remain in my present position I shall not attempt to retract or modify the emancipation proclamation. Nor shall I return to slavery any person who is free by the terms of that proclamation, or by any of the acts of Congress. If the people should, by whatever mode or means, make it an executive duty to re-enslave such persons, another, and not I, must be their instrument to perform it." In speaking a single condition of peace, I mean simply to say that the war will cease on the part of the government whenever it shall have ceased on the part of those who began it."

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

C. T., Atchison, Kan.:

1. Give a biographical sketch of ex-Pres. Sarmiento, of the Argentine Republic. 2. Give an outline of the public school system in the Argentine Republic.

1. Born in San Juan de la Frontera, February 15, 1811. In 1836 he became director of a school in the province of San Luis, and from 1831 to 1836 he resided in Chili. In 1835 he founded a female school at San Juan, but in 1840 again went to Chili, where he greatly promoted education, publishing many school books and establishing numerous schools and colleges, including the normal school of Santiago, and editing several periodicals, mostly educational. He was the first to publish a daily paper in Santiago. In 1845 the Chilian government sent him to Europe and the United States to observe the primary school system of those countries, and on his return he published a work entitled *De la Educacion popular*. Returning to the Argentine Republic, he became successively minister of the interior, colonel of the Argentine forces, governor of the province of San Juan, and minister of public instruction. He was minister plenipotentiary to the United States from 1864 to 1868, when he was elected president of the Argentine Republic, assuming office October 12. During his administration the war against Paraguay was brought to a successful termination, numerous insurrections were put down, railways and telegraphs were constructed, immigration was promoted, foreign commerce encouraged and extended, schools were multiplied, a national college was established in each of the provinces, and the national observatory was founded under the supervision of Prof. B. A. Gould. Many important institutions were introduced, mainly modelled after those of the United States. His term expired in October, 1874.

2. There are two universities in the republic, Buenos Ayres and Cordoba, with 66 professors and 963 students; a mining school and an agricultural school, with 10 professors and about 100 students. There are also 38 middle-class and normal schools, with about 7,000 pupils, and 1,885 primary (national, provincial, municipal and private) schools, with 129,900 pupils. There are besides a few special schools. On primary schools the state spends about $120,000 annually, which is considerably supplemented by the provinces and municipalities. The constitution of the republic, with certain small exceptions, is identical with that of the United States.

ARKANSAS.

H. A. B., Waterburg, N. Y.:

Please give a description of Arkansas. I want to know about the fertility of soil, healthfulness, etc.

The Bureau gave a long description of Arkansas some time ago. The eastern portion of the state, extending back 100 miles from the Mississippi, is generally a vast plain covered with marshes, swamps, and lagoons. The Ozark mountains which enter the northwest part of the state divide it into two unequal parts, of which the northern has the climate and productions of the Northern states, while the southern portion, in climate and productions, resembles Mississippi and Louisiana. The lowlands of Arkansas are unhealthy, while the more elevated portions of the state will compare favorably with the most healthful and invigorating portions of the Northwest. There is a great variety of soil in this state. While some portions, like the river bottoms, are exceedingly fertile, other parts are sterile and barren. The staple products are Indian corn, cotton and live stock. Arkansas gives indications of rich mineral resources.

BOUNDARY LINE.

T. A. P., Miamisburg, O.:

If you have not already too often answered the question, please give a brief sketch of the establishment of the present boundary line between the United States and the British possessions.

The boundary line between British America and the United States was mainly determined by the conventions of 1839 and 1846; and finally, as to the disputed possession of the island of San Juan, in 1872, by the arbitration of the emperor of Germany. The extreme southern point of British America is on or near Middle Island, in Lake Erie, latitude 41° 40' north, British America is bounded north by Hudson's ocean, northeast and east by Baffin bay, Davis strait, and the Atlantic ocean, south by the United States, and west and northwest by the Pacific ocean and Alaska. The total area is about 3,510,000 square miles.

STATEN ISLAND—LONG ISLAND.

D. B. A., Cairo, Iowa:

1. Please give the location and description of Staten Island. 2. Of Long Island.

1. There are several islands of this name. The one in New York constitutes the county of Richmond. It is about 14 miles long, and is five miles southwest of the city of New York. It is separated from Long Island by the Narrows, and from New Jersey by two narrow channels. There is beautiful scenery on the island, and many fine mansions and villas. 2. There is a dozen islands by this name. Long Island, New York, is in the Atlantic ocean, and is the most southeast part of the state of New York. It is separated from the city of New York by a strait called the East river, which is about one-half mile wide, and is bounded on the north by Long Island Sound, which separates it from Connecticut. It is about 110 miles long, the greatest width being nearly twenty miles. Its outline is indented by numerous bays and inlets. The island is divided into three counties—Kings, Queens and Suffolk. The city of Brooklyn is situated on its west end.

TEXAS.

1. Please inform me in regard to the climate and healthfulness of Texas. 2. Why is it that the state owns the land?

1. The state has a long and hot summer, tempered by sea breezes, and qualified by occasional "northers" (as the cold storm-winds are called), which sometimes last four or five days. The high inland prairies have a delightful climate throughout the year. As a whole, Texas is remarkably healthful, except that in the low grounds and most prairies malarial fevers prevail. The coast towns are exposed to occasional visitations of yellow fever, and along the Rio Grande the singular break-bone fever prevails. 2. Texas was an independent republic, and when annexed to the United States retained possession of the public lands. In 1850 Texas sold to the United States for $10,000,000 her claims to lands outside her present limits.

MISCELLANEOUS.

M. T., Heraldsburg, Cal.: Write to the commissioner of pensions, Washington, D. C., or to one of the pension agents advertising in the BLADE.

J. H. H., West Andover, O.:

The President in discussing the coining of silver dollars, says that each month $2,000,000 in gold is taken from the treasury to pay for that amount or more in silver dollars, which are merely stored away, etc. Does the law require that gold be paid for the silver bullion? If not, why do you so, but we have no copy of the law at hand.

S. L. B., Conway, Kans.:

1. Were the homestead, pre-emption and tree claim laws Democratic or Republican measures? 2. What foreigners have obtained large tracts of the public lands? 3. What measure have the Democrats introduced for the last 25 years that benefitted the people at large?

1. All Republican measures. 2. None, except by purchase in the regular way of business. 3. Not one.

N. G., Rome City, Ind.:

1. Give the area of each Indian reservation outside of Indian Territory, giving the state or territory where located. The acres that the government has paid them for their lands.

1-2. Write to your member of Congress for a copy of the report of the secretary of the Interior. The BLADE has given all the information in its possession.

W. C. C., Wadestown, W. Va.:

In playing a game of seven up, I turned a heart, and my opponent begging, I run the cards, and turned the jack of hearts, but was not permitted to score it. I think it was right to count it as a point. Will the BLADE please decide?

In the language of a veteran player, who claims to know Hoyle by heart, "a jack never loses his lives except in case of mis-deal." The next time you play count every jack you turn, with the exception noted.

F. E. K., Juniata, Neb.:

How many men were killed and died from the effects of the war on both sides during the late war?

The information was given less than a year ago, showing the number by states. The following is a condensed statement: Union soldiers killed in battle, 61,362; died of wounds, 34,727; died of disease, 183,287; total died, 279,376; total deserted, 99,105. Number of soldiers in the Confederate service who died of wounds or disease, (partial statement,) 133,821. Deserted, (partial statement,) 104,428. Number of United States troops captured during the war, 212,608; Confederate troops captured, 476,169. Number of United States troops killed on the field, 16,436; Confederate troops paroled on the field, 248,599. Number of United States troops who died while prisoners, 29,725. Confederate troops who died while prisoners, 26,774.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

Should be kept constantly at hand, for use in emergencies of the household. Many a mother, startled in the night by the ominous sounds of Croup, finds the little sufferer, with red and swollen face, gasping for air. In such cases Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is invaluable. Mrs. Emma Gedney, 159 West 128 st., New York, writes: "While in the country, last winter, my little boy, three years old, was taken ill with Croup; it seemed as if he would die from strangulation. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral was tried in small and frequent doses, and, in less than half an hour, the little patient was breathing easily. The doctor said that the Pectoral saved my darling's life." Mrs. Chas. B. Landon, Guilford, Conn., writes: "Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

Saved My Life,

and also the life of my little son. As he is troubled with Croup, I dare not be without this remedy in the house." Mrs. J. Gregg, Lowell, Mass., writes: "My children have repeatedly taken Ayer's Cherry Pectoral for Coughs and Croup. It gives immediate relief, followed by cure." Mrs. Mary E. Evans, Scranton, Pa., writes: "I have two little boys, both of whom have been, from infancy, subject to violent attacks of Croup. About six months ago we began using Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and it acts like a charm. In a few minutes after the child takes it, he breathes easily and rests well. Every mother ought to know what a blessing I have found in Ayer's Cherry Pectoral." Mrs. Wm. C. Reid, Freehold, N. J., writes: "In our family, Ayer's medicines have been blessings for many years. In cases of Colds and Coughs, we take

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral,

and the inconvenience is soon forgotten."

PREPARED BY

Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Sold by all Druggists.

A POCKETLESS GENERATION.

Miss Ethel's Dismal Wail Over Fashion's Inexorable Laws.

"Oh, my, what have I done with my handkerchief?" cried pretty Miss Ethel in dismay, as she started home from church last night. "Didn't I put it in your pocket, George? I must have."

George searched himself carefully and dutifully and found that she had not.

"Perhaps you have got it in one of your own pockets," he suggested, mildly.

"In one of my own pockets! Pshaw, you silly boy," and Miss Ethel stamped her foot with indignation.

"Don't you know I haven't got a pocket to my name? Women don't wear pockets now. There's no room for them in their dresses. I think its a shame, too. They might let us girls have at least one. You men have a dozen."

"Where do you carry things?" inquired George, timidly.

"Why, in my caba, of course, and every time I leave my caba at home I lose my handkerchief. You see, George I have to stuff it up under my basque, and it won't stay there. Oh dear, it's awful to have to be fashionable, isn't it?"—*Philadelphia Press*

ORIGINAL LITTLE HAVANA GOULD & CO'S.

IS DECIDED BY

ROYAL HAVANA LOTTERY

(A GOVERNMENT INSTITUTION.)

DRAWN AT HAVANA CUBA,

JANUARY 2, 16 and 30, 1886.

Tickets in Fifths. Wholes, $5.00.

Fractions pro-rata.

Subject to no manipulation, not controlled by the parties in interest. It is the fairest thing in the nature of chance in existence.

For information and particulars apply to SHIPSEY CO., Gen. Agents, 1212 Broadway, N. Y. City. M. OTTENS & CO., Kansas City, Mo., and Omaha, Neb.

HENRY HALL, 14 State St., Boston, Mass.—or D. L. GILLISPIE, No. 6 West Court St., Memphis, Tenn.

FROM THE CRADLE to the GRAVE A COLD NEGLECTED ENDING IN CROUP and CONSUMPTION.

COLDS.

CROUP.

COUGHS.

CONSUMPTION.

Contagious.

I am a native of England, and while I was in that country I contracted a terrible blood poison, and for two years was under treatment as an out-door patient at Nottingham Hospital, England, but was not cured. I suffered the most agonizing pains, and my body was covered with sores all over my body and limbs. Finally, I completely lost all hope in that country, and sailed for America, and was treated at Roosevelt, in this city, as well as by a prominent physician in New York having no connection with the hospitals.

I saw the advertisement of Swift's Specific, and I determined to give it a trial. I took six bottles, and I can say with a clear conscience that they cured me entirely. I am as sound and well as I ever was in my life. L. FRED. HALFORD.

New York City, June 12, 1885.

In March of last year (1884), I contracted blood poison, and being in Savannah, Ga., at the time, I went into the hospital there for treatment. I suffered very much from rheumatism at the same time. I did not get well under the treatment there, nor was I cured by any of the usual means. I have now taken seven bottles of Swift's Specific, and am sound and well. It drove the poison out through boils on the skin. DAN LEARY.

Jersey City, N. J., August 7, 1885.

Treatise on Blood and Skin Diseases mailed free. THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., Drawer 3, Atlanta, Ga. N. Y., 157 W. 23d St.

Cuticura

A POSITIVE CURE

for every form of

SKIN and BLOOD DISEASE

FROM

PIMPLES TO SCROFULA.

ECZEMA, or Salt Rheum, with its agonizing Itching and burning, instantly relieved by a warm bath with CUTICURA SOAP and a single application of CUTICURA, the great Skin Cure.

This, repeated daily, with two or three doses of CUTICURA RESOLVENT, the New Blood Purifier, to keep the blood cool, the perspiration pure and unirritating, the bowels open, the liver and kidneys active, will speedily cure Eczema, Tetter, Ringworm, Psoriasis, Lichen, Pruritus, Scall Head, Dandruff and every species of Itching, Scaly and Pimply Humors of the Skin and Scalp, with Loss of Hair, when the best physicians and all known remedies fail.

Sold everywhere. Price, CUTICURA, 50c.; RESOLVENT, $1; SOAP, 25c. Prepared by the POTTER DRUG AND CHEMICAL CO., Boston, Mass.

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KIDNEY PAINS, Strains and Weakness instantly relieved by the CUTICURA ANTI-PAIN PLASTER. New, elegant, infallible.

Contagious.

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TAYLOR'S

CHEROKEE REMEDY

Of SWEET GUM and MULLEIN.

The sweet gum, as gathered from a tree of the same name, growing along the small streams of the Southern States, contains a stimulating expectorant principle that loosens the phlegm, producing the early morning cough, and stimulates the child to throw off the false membrane in croup and whooping cough. When combined with the healing mucilaginous principle in the mullein plant of the old fields, presents in TAYLOR'S CHEROKEE REMEDY OF SWEET GUM AND MULLEIN the finest known remedy for Coughs, Croup, Whooping Cough and Consumption; and so palatable, any child is pleased to take it. Ask your druggist for it. 25c. and $1.00 sizes. If he does not keep it, we will pay, for one time only, express charges on large size bottles to any part of the U. S., on receipt of $1.00.

WALTER A. TAYLOR, Atlanta, Ga.

Chest Development.

Medical and Surgical Reporter.

The general practitioner is frequently asked by anxious parents: "What shall I do for my boy; he is getting so awfully stoop-shouldered that I am afraid he will get consumption; I will have to get him a brace. What kind would you recommend?"

It requires no extended argument to prove the importance of a well-expanded chest. Apart from the incalculable benefits to health, an erect carriage and graceful movements attract the attention of the most humble. It causes them to correct, as far as they are able, in their children any tendency to awkward, stooping or ungainly positions. Apart from the cost and inconvenience of expensive instruments, but few meet the requirements. In many cases better results may be obtained by attending to a few simple details, within the reach of every one, in the ordinary clothing.

The boy's pockets are to him a very important part of his dress, and the natural tendency is to keep his hands in them. When not actively engaged, there they are usuly found, and if the pockets are properly placed, they will inadvertently cause him to throw back the shoulders and more or less expand the chest. For instance the jacket or overcoat should have what is called breast pockets, the opening should be high and as far back as possible, parallel with and in the line of the body instead of low down and transverse as usually found in the ordinary jacket or overcoat.

The pants should have what are called "hip-pockets," and no others It will shen be apparent that while the hands are in the pockets, a better, if not a perfect, position will be assumed and the boy spared the many admonitions to "Keep your hands out of your pockets," and the accompanying box on the ear.

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DR. WM. HALL'S BALSAM For the LUNGS.

Cures Consumption, Colds, Pneumonia, Influenza, Bronchial Difficulties, Bronchitis, Hoarseness, Asthma, Croup, Whooping Cough, and all Diseases of the Breathing Organs. It soothes and heals the Membrane of the Lungs, Inflamed and poisoned by the disease, and prevents the night sweats and the tightness across the chest which accompany it. CONSUMPTION is not an incurable malady. HALL'S BALSAM will cure you, even though professional aid fails.

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The Most Powerful Healing Ointment ever Discovered.

Henry's Carbolic Salve cures Sores.
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Ask for Henry's Carbolic Salve. Take no other.

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MUSIC.

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Ditson & Co. offer to Choirs, Anthems, Chorus and Quartet Books unequalled in quality and variety. Send for lists! Of the following Anthem Books, the first three may be called the newest, but none are too difficult for ordinary choirs:

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Santoral. Palmer & Trowbridge, 1	or 9 "
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Not a poor book in the list. Choir leaders who have used one run no risk in ordering any of the others.

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36 Concealed Name Cards and Package of Presents, 10c. Wil

THE WEEKLY BLADE.

TOLEDO BLADE CO., PUBLISHERS. | D. R. LOCKE, EDITOR.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT TOLEDO AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

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CHEAPEST PAPER IN THE WORLD.

LARGEST AND BEST WEEKLY PUBLISHED.

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THE BLADE, TOLEDO, O.

Circulation Last Week, 128,000.

The Most Liberal Offer Ever Made.

A Good Watch for an Hour's Work.

Any person—man, woman, boy or girl—who will raise a club of TEN for the WEEKLY BLADE, at its lowest and only price, One Dollar each, will receive a warranted Waterbury Watch, free, by mail.

To secure this valuable premium, the ten names must be sent in at one time, with the price, $10. No other terms will be regarded.

Any one can raise a club of Ten for the WEEKLY BLADE anywhere, in a very little time. It is easy to get subscribers for the BLADE, for everybody ought to have it, and 200,000 families will have it this winter.

Take hold at once and get your watch. We will mail them, in every case, the day we receive the club.

We warrant every watch we send. There is no way in which a reliable time-piece can be so easily obtained.

A warranted watch for Ten yearly subscribers to the WEEKLY BLADE; or, if preferred we will send either "Nasby in Exile," or "Andersonville" in lieu of the watch.

THE TENURE OF OFFICE LAW.

It seems to us that the bill of Sen. HOAR, to repeal the amended tenure of office law, is a move in the right direction. The original law was passed to meet a very grave emergency—a crisis whose importance is now seen to have been really greater than it was supposed to be at the time of the passage of the measure. It was intended as an effectual curb upon a refractory President. ANDREW JOHNSON had set up the doctrine of absolute power for political purposes over the Presidential offices, and he was resolved to stretch his authority to the utmost, particularly during the recess of the Senate, to force upon the country his "policy" with reference to reconstruction. Late revelations show that JOHNSON'S designs stopped little short of the setting up of a Congress composed of Northern Democrats and newly-chosen members from the lately rebellious and still unreconstructed states. The Senate was determined to prevent the use of the office for any such end. The House was in entire sympathy with the Senate, and the result was the tenure of office law, which gave to every person appointed "by and with the consent of the Senate," a right to hold that office during its full term, unless removed "by and with the advice of the Senate," or by a subsequent appointment with such advice and consent. The law went even further than this, and forbade the President during the recess of the Senate to remove any officer except for specified causes, involving gross misconduct, which were to be laid before the Senate immediately upon its reconvening. After the inauguration of Gen. GRANT the law was amended so as to allow the President the right of suspension at discretion during recess, but nominations for vacancies were to be sent to the Senate within 30 days after the opening of the next session, and if none was confirmed before adjournment, why, then, just how the office should be filled, or whether it should be filled at all, is what the dispute has been about. The occasion which called this law into being has long since passed away, and it is to be hoped such untoward circumstances will never again render such strong measures a necessity. Let the law be repealed.

CLUB AGENTS.

It is now the season of the year to raise clubs for the BLADE, and we want an agent at every postoffice in the United States. *We pay this year the largest cash commission to club agents of any paper in the United States.* Write for our terms to agents. There is no paper published that so many people want and none for which it is so easy to raise clubs. Send for our terms to agents and make a dollar or two in an hour.

ONE of the prettiest refutations of an oft-repeated free trade lie was given in Iowa by Sen. WILSON. Last fall the farmers of Iowa were making a careful study of the tariff question. The Nebraska free-trader, MORTON, told an Iowa audience that they paid the English price plus the duty for their blankets. To disprove this Sen. WILSON took some of the leading farmers to a woolen mill which was producing the best blankets, made from wool grown on the backs of American sheep, and worked into blankets by American labor. "Give me your prices for the best grade of five-pound and of eight-pound blankets," said the senator. The manufacturer put the figures on a piece of paper, and to the astonishment of those present, the prices in each case were a trifle lower than those MORTON had given as the original British price. The farmers were not converted to free trade.

It seems to have been decided by the majority of the Senate that there is nothing incompatible with the public interests in announcing in the *Congressional Record* why nominations are rejected, and it will be accordingly done. The President is said to have no objection to this. This was to be expected, for he has apparently desired to appoint only fit men to office, and if unfit ones have been imposed upon him by falsehoods on the part of their influential friends, the fact should be known, and the cheeky aspirants and their lying backers held up to public execration. The columns of the *Record* promise to contain much interesting matter if the above programme is carried out, and the public service will be the gainer, as rascals will be shy of applying for an office with the certainty of the publication of their unsavory records before them.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

THE annual review of the iron trade for 1885, made by the general manager of the American Iron and Steel association, gives some facts and conclusions of a most encouraging nature. There is a steady improvement going on, and prices are now more satisfactory than at any other time for the past twelvemonth. Pig iron was $18 in January and $18.25 in December. Steel rails were $27 in January and $34.50 in December. Bar iron was $40.32 in January and $39.29 in December. This country made about as much pig iron and steel rails in 1885 as in 1884, which shows that the depression has not been as severely felt as there seemed to be reason for supposing. The fear of tariff tinkering is the only element of uncertainty in the outlook, and the prospect of this is growing less constantly.

ALTHOUGH the number of miles of railroad actually constructed in 1885 was 700 miles less than for 1884, and the smallest since 1878—the total new mileage being but 3,118—there are a very great many new roads projected, work will speedily begin on a number, and the indications for the new year are that it will witness the construction of a great deal of new track. The railroad mileage of the United States in ten years has increased 54,768 miles, the total length of road now in operation being 128,500 miles, or enough railroads in this country alone to circle the earth five times and have plenty left for side tracks.

R. G. DUN & Co. report that the total number of business failures in the United States for 1885 was 10,637, with liabilities of a little more than $124,000,000, as compared with 10,968 in 1884, with liabilities of $226,000,000.

THE *National Republican*, of Washington, has canvassed the opinions of the Senate on the silver question, and says it is convinced that while a bill suspending silver coinage would be defeated, it believes that one to put 100 cents' worth of silver into the dollar would pass.

SEN. LOGAN will introduce a bill when Congress reconvenes to prohibit the states and territories from imposing taxes upon commercial travelers. Nine states and the District of Columbia now compel drummers to take out a license, and in some cases the fee is $250 a year. Good lawyers say that Congress has a right to prohibit these restrictions under its power to regulate inter state commerce.

JANUARY 1 was celebrated as Emancipation day by the colored people at many points in the South. It was the twenty-third anniversary of the going into effect of LINCOLN'S Emancipation proclamation, which struck the shackles of slavery from the negroes in bondage in the South.

A NEW ecclesiastical regulation has been adopted, it is reported, by the Catholic church of this country, by which every parish will be under the control of a board of trustees instead of the priest. A change of nomenclature has also been adopted, by which the priest is hereafter to be called "rector." Wonder whether the High Church Episcopalians, in their haste to ape the Roman forms and terminology, will follow suit, and cease calling their minister's "priests"? Another feature of the new rules, evidently suggested by the Archbishop PURCELL failure, forbids priests or bishops acting as bankers or trustees for their people.

IT now appears that the Conservative ministry has resolved to remain in power and Lord RANDOLPH CHURCHILL has submitted to it a proposition for a reform in the government of Ireland. The scheme is to place it on the same footing as Scotland with a secretary in the Cabinet. This would involve the abolishing of the viceroyalty, and of the castle executive. How this will be received is not yet known. Meanwhile nothing is heard from Mr. PARNELL, who is evidently awaiting the moving of the tide, in order to know what step to take next.

IT is declared that, early in the coming session of Parliament, a bill will be introduced by Lord SALISBURY imposing protective duties on all manufactured articles imported into Great Britain which come into competition with the British manufacturers. England is getting tired of her free trade policy.

THE British forces in the Soudan have at last won a victory. Under Lieut. Gen. STEPHENSON they captured the village of Gunniss, after a three hours' engagement, completely routing the rebels. They do not seem to be very much frightened, however, by this defeat, as they are reported gathering in large numbers, and as the Egyptians fight better than in the last campaign, serious work is promised for England. The rebel intention now seems to be to invade Lower Egypt, and if they do so the invasion will prove that Lord WOLSELEY was right when he advised abandoning Dongola.

THE annexation of Burmah by England has aroused little comment or opposition at home or abroad. France is offended, but can do nothing. Should China disapprove, it would be of some importance. An effort is to be made to conciliate her by conceding a portion of Upper Burmah, which measure will probably succeed in its purpose.

ALTHOUGH Pres. GREVY was re-elected, a French ministry has not yet been formed to succeed that of M. BRISSON. It is probable that M. DE FREYCINET will undertake the task, although most embarrassing complications will have to be dealt with. The French people are tired of such operations as those in Tunis, Madagascar and Tonquin, for they have brought to the country little glory, while many lives have been lost and large sums of money expended. The object now must be to build up French industries by a vigorous home position. Meanwhile the present financial policy is one of extreme danger, and a new ministry will have the problem of wide-reaching retrenchments to deal with.

A RUMOR comes from the East Indies of large discoveries of gold, and mining stocks have gone up 500 to 600 per cent. on the London market. If these mines are of the fabulous richness ascribed to them, the silver expansionists will soon be deprived of their chief argument, viz.: that gold is growing scarce, and hence has increased in price.

THE great volcano of Colima, Mexico, is in eruption, and a vast outflow of lava is pouring down the mountain side, creating great alarm among those living in the vicinity.

THE GEORGIA PLAN—VIEWS OF REV. ROBERT M'CUNE.

Rev. ROBERT M'CUNE, now Pastor of the Congregational Church of Kokomo, Indiana, is one of the best known men in the North. He was one of the founders of the Wesleyan Methodist connection, having detached himself from the original church because it would not take as open a stand as he thought it should against slavery; he was for years doing missionary work at his own expense in the great cause of human liberty, and, as a matter of course, has always been an ardent advocate of temperance.

ROBERT MCCUNE is one of the ablest men in the country, and one of the most self-sacrificing. At once he is conservative and radical,—radical as to ideas in reform, and conservative and sensible as to the methods of procedure. The reformers of the country have no safer counsellor.

Mr. M'CUNE preached a sermon Thanksgiving Sunday, on the result of the Atlanta election, extracts from which we re-print, to which we ask the earnest attention of all those who have given the subject a minute's attention. After describing in detail the organization of the friends of Prohibition, Mr. M'CUNE draws therefrom these conclusions:

By such means the cause of prohibition was made victorious in Atlanta. Men of all parties and creeds cordially wrought together in the interest of society. Party lines, color, and caste distinctions, sectarian divisions, and even personal antipathies were all broken over and broken down in the effort to crush out vice. God sends His prosperous blessings upon communities containing men capable of conduct so wise and noble. Upon Atlanta God's prospering blessing must descend.

If, as we have seen in the Atlanta contest, the victory was scarcely gained, where the vote was taken on the abstract question of prohibition, uncomplicated with party politics; taken at a time and in a way not interfering with any man's personal aspirations or political interests or preferences, how much more difficult, yea, how hopeless the contest becomes when the interests of temperance must stand or fall with the fate of one of the existing parties. The triumph will be none too easy under the most simplified submission of the question, and the cause must suffer defeat when political complications occur in the course of its submission.

I suggest to the friends of temperance a close imitation of the course pursued by the friends of temperance in Georgia. That was to gain the conquest of one county after another, until the whole was brought under the law of prohibition. It looks grand to make state or national organizations, and to attempt, by means of skeleton parties, the transformation of existing powerful organizations. But that is not easy of accomplishment. The feasible way is by the simplest forms of submission to gain county after county, and city after city, till all the land is conquered for sobriety and order.

It may be true that all temperance men ought to be willing to drop instantly their present political affiliations for the purpose of making prohibition the supreme question in state and national politics. But it is as certain as fate itself that no such breaking up of existing organizations will be made on that issue. To attempt that is to defeat prohibition—at least for the time being. I am free to say that if it could be decided by any action I would yield every political preference and affiliation to secure prohibition, but it is vain to expect any such surrender by any large proportion of citizens whose ballots are necessary. But where the question can be put abstract from party politics, as it has been in Georgia, a majority, we think, can be secured in most of the states of the Union for the banishment of the tippling shop. Georgia has kept the question before the people until a righteous decision has been reached, and at the same time kept it out of party politics; and what has been done in Georgia can and ought to be done in Indiana, and in every state in the Union.

Mr. MCCUNE, always practical, and always desiring to accomplish something, makes the following exceedingly practical suggestions, which are worth serious consideration:

While not counseling the abandonment of our determination to secure by law and by constitutional enactment the prohibition of the tippling shop in every state, district, and territory, I do counsel the immediate adoption of what is known as local option, by which each county and town shall have brought home to itself the responsibility for the intemperance which exists among them. This system, however imperfect, has manifest advantages. It lays responsibility for the evils of the liquor trade where men ought to feel it most—in and at their homes. It requires a hardihood in deviltry for even a moderately respectable man to look across the breakfast table at his wife and say, "I'm going to vote for the tippling shops today, that our dear children may be tempted to drunkenness as they come to manhood!" None will probably say that in words, and few, comparatively, will in deeds.

The recurrence of elections under the local option plan will compel an earnest and healthy agitation of the temperance question, and keep alive an interest sufficient to keep the law operative and effective. A very fallacious sentiment and feeling obtains, practically to this purport, that a prohibition clause once in the constitution of a state and the battle is over, at least until a call is made for its repeal. There is always a battle to be fought after a law is made—the most serious and protracted struggle is to get the law enforced. Local option will compel public opinion to express itself. The moral power of agitation will avail much in the education of our youth. It will give the rumseller to feel, as he does not now feel, what a hell of torment it is to dwell in a community where the majority of its people regularly express their abhorrence and condemnation of his occupation. The agitation thus kept will make the business risky, unsafe, and unprofitable. Many now in the traffic will not care to continue in a trade against which the moral sense of an intelligent people will ever be casting the hottest brands of condemnation.

There are, in this imperfect world, exceedingly good men, who ardently desire reforms, but who never succeed in getting them. These are those who demand so much that they never gain anything. This class will not have local option, because, as they say, "We cannot license in one county and prohibit in another." They forget that it is possible to enact and enforce Prohibition in one county to-day, and not in another for a decade. These people look upon humanity not as it is, but as they would have it. Georgia would never have had Prohibition if the question had been submitted, at the beginning, to the whole state. The state, as a state, was not prepared for it, and it could not have succeeded. But it was taken up one county at a time, the benefits of Prohibition were demonstrated little by little, men who had never given the subject a minute's thought became interested, and one by one the counties were captured, until at last the movement gained the strength that enabled a movement to be made upon Atlanta, the great stronghold of Rum, and it was carried.

Ohio, Indiana and other states are in the same condition. Prohibition could be carried in Ohio by the vote of the agricultural counties, but it would be exceedingly difficult to enforce it in the great cities, as public opinion now is. Only after its benefits had been demonstrated in counties where enforcement is possible, now, would this be possible.

Mr. M'CUNE'S remarks concerning the divorce of Prohibition from politics are especially worthy of consideration. Certain it is that Prohibition has never been made a success by the action of political parties, for the simple reason that there are other questions upon which men will divide, other interests which men consider vital, which always have and always will divide the friends of temperance. In Georgia the question was considered independent of party affiliations, Democrats and Republicans united for and against Prohibition, and the result is before the world. The Empire State of the South is practically free from Rum. It is far in advance of either Maine, Iowa or Kansas in this reform, and the success of the friends of law and order has been so pronounced in Georgia, that the enactment and enforcement of Prohibitory laws in the other Southern states will be an easy matter.

We ask a careful perusal of Rev. MCCUNE'S views upon this question. We agree with him in every particular. His plan is the BLADE'S plan, which is the shortest and most direct way to

Pulverize the Rum Power.

A BOND CALL AT LAST.

The fierce attack of Sen. BECK upon the financial policy of the administration, and the sharp criticisms of the press in all sections of the country—Democratic as well as Republican—over the entire indifference displayed by Sec. MANNING to the provisions of the sinking fund act which he was practically ignoring, have evidently made an impression on the pig-headedness of those in authority, and a bond call has been made for $10,000,000 of three per cents. When this call is paid, there will still be $184,190,000 of the three per cent. bonds outstanding and subject to call, and we are complacently informed by the powers that be that "there will probably be another call between this and July 1." What a change from Republican financial management! That will make a total of $20,000,000 of bonds paid per annum, when it was the Republican practice for years to pay off the bonds at the rate of about $10,000,000 per month! The secretary has seen fit to explain why he makes a call at this juncture, though we can see no reason why, with an overflowing treasury on the one hand and a great debt on the other, any explanation is needed. However, Mr. MANNING says the causes of the call were:

First—The high price of exchange in this country and the probable near approach of shipments of gold.

Second—It was necessary that a call should be made for sinking-fund purposes, and the secretary held that if bonds were to be called it should be done early in the year, so that the one that will almost necessarily come near July 1 may not follow too close in its wake.

It is also claimed that the bond call was made in response to the demands of trade, as it is believed it will discourage the shipment of gold from this country to Europe. The Secretary labors hard to give the impression that BECK'S speech had nothing to do with the call, but the silver men and those who sympathize with Mr. BECK are jubilant, as they feel confident that it was primarily due thereto, and they think that they have scored a point in making the administration feel their power.

Two bills are already before Congress for organizing the Indian Territory into a regular territory, after the model usually followed. The bill of Mr. TOWNSHEND, of Illinois, provides for the allotment of lands to the Indians in severalty. It grants patents to the Indians for the lands, making them, however, inalienable for 25 years, and requiring all the remaining lands held by the Indians to be sold and to be opened to settlement and the proceeds to be used by the government for the education and civilization of the Indians. The other measure was introduced by Mr. WEAVER, of Iowa. It provides for the organization of the Indian territory and the "public land strip" into a territory to be called Oklahoma. It declares that the lands can only be taken under the Homestead law, and that there shall be commutation of claims in cash. All Indian leases in the territory except those for cultivating the soil are declared void and contrary to public policy. The bill provides for a commission to negotiate with the Indians with a view to assigning them lands in severalty and purchasing all relinquished and unoccupied lands.

The secretary of the Interior has also transmitted to the Senate, through the President, the draft of a bill amending the law as to trespass on Indian lands. It makes it an offense punishable by fine and imprisonment and forfeiture of outfit for any person to enter any Indian lands without authority of law. Emigrants peaceably passing through such lands are exempted from the penal provisions of the bill.

To make prohibition effective, all that is needed is for the friends of the law to unite in its enforcement. The following letter, written to a brewing firm, tells of an unique and effective method of dealing with the traffic which is in operation in Valley Falls, Kansas:

GENTS—We this day reship you, on account of Benjamin Simons, thirteen cases of beer found in said Simons' cellar after his repeated assurances that he had shown us all the liquor on his premises.

We have been careful to warn Mr. Simons that if any of this liquor is ever returned by him and sold here, he will surely go to jail.

We are happy to inform you that Valley Falls is now a prohibition town. Three days ago we had four saloons, openly and defiantly running in full blast. But a moral cyclone struck the town and swept the liquor clear out of three of said saloons. The fourth one is still loaded with rotgut, but we have it plugged at both ends.

Very respectfully,
CITIZENS' COMMITTEE.

ENGLISH economists are hopeful, as they see signs of a reaction and recovery from the long and severe depression which has prevailed there. They predict a steady improvement throughout 1886 in every branch of commerce and industry except the shipping trade, which seems to be in a hopelessly bad way with no possibility of recovery. Its sad condition is charged to overproduction of steam shipping. No such condition exists on this side of the water, and what we most need is a revival of our shipping interest in order that we may regain our lost place on the great water ways of the world.

A YOUNG man named JOHN T. MORTON, of Arkansas, recently passed an excellent civil service examination, and was appointed a clerk in the Postoffice department at Washington. Nothing was known about him personally, until he reported for duty Tuesday. He is a negro, and the first of his race to get a place under Mr. VILAS. Now we may look for a renewed howl against the civil service law from the Bourbon element.

THIS is the season of the year when newspaper subscriptions are expiring. We ask our subscribers to be prompt in renewing, so as not to miss a number of the BLADE, and to send in another name with their own. Thousands are doing this, and we want thousands more to imitate their example. Renew in time, and induce your neighbor to remit with you.

THE sugar crop of Louisiana is larger by 15 per cent than the average of previous years.

CHICAGO has now over 3,000 licensed saloons.

"THE CONFESSIONS OF A DRUNKARD."

We shall commence the "Confessions of a Drunkard" next week. We expected the complete manuscript in time for this week's issue, but it came too late. We want a very large circulation for this series. It is admirably written, showing as it does the Drunkard's progress from the first taste to the inevitable conclusion. It will be found to be the most powerful work of the century, and will do a world of good. If you have a friend who has acquired, or is acquiring the horrible appetite, you can do no better than to send him the BLADE for the coming three months. He ought to read these papers. "The Confessions of a Drunkard" will commence next week, sure.

MYTHICAL ENGLISH ESTATES.

The United States minister to England, Mr. PHELPS, has performed at least one good thing for the people of this country in correcting the widespread belief that there are enormous estates and sums of money in England waiting for American heirs. There are in America thousands of persons confidently hoping to become wealthy by obtaining a share of some one of these mythical English fortunes. Their interest has been aroused by flattering circulars which have been sent broadcast over the land by designing attorneys, who, there is reason to believe, have reduced this business to a trade. They correspond with every person of whom they can learn bearing the same, usually a common, family name, and among these there are a large number who answer. In many localities, associations are formed and assessments are regularly made and usually promptly paid. The total revenue from this source must be large, and the rascals in New York and London who absorb it must be exceedingly well paid.

Mr. PHELPS was led to make an investigation or this whole subject by, being overwhelmed with letters concerning the famous LAWRENCE TOWNLEY estate, written by Americans who have been led to believe that they were in the way to receive some part of the $800,000,000 said to be lying idle in the Bank of England awaiting distribution among unknown heirs. The fact that there was passed last August an act of Parliament referring to the alleged estate has provoked another avalanche of letters. Mr. PHELPS has, therefore, decided to save his own time and that of his correspondents with great expectations—to say nothing of their money—by issuing a circular in which this great bubble is pricked. He sums up the whole business and exposes the swindle of the attorneys (British and American) who have been practising on the credulity of the supposed heirs, in the following series of denials and assertions:

1. That there is no money in the Bank of England belonging to the "Lawrence-Townley" or the "Townley" estate, or to any claimants under either.

2. That there is no such estate in England as the "Lawrence-Townley" estate, nor any family of that designation.

3. That the "Townley estate" is a large landed property in the counties of Lancaster and York, which is now and has been for a long time in the possession of its proprietors. That possession is completely protected by the law of England. There are no unknown or American owners of any part of it. And no ground whatever for any such claim.

The act of Parliament above mentioned has no reference to any division of the estate among American claimants or heirs. The name of Lawrence does not occur in it. It is an act to adjust the equities arising under certain successive marriage settlements and other conveyances executed at various times between 1801 and 1877, in favor of the persons therein named. An amicable suit in chancery is being conducted for this purpose among the parties in interest. And by direction of the court this act was obtained in aid of its decree. The assertion advertised in the United States that the act affords an opportunity, or that there is any other opportunity, for the prosecution of American claims to this property, is a gross fraud.

There is no probability of any American succeeding in establishing a claim to any English estate where the claim dates back beyond a few years. If an old claim were once valid, it must now have lapsed by reason of statutes of limitation, or the property would have been many times sold for taxes. But Minister PHELPS has furnished official information which not only enforces this view, but supplies other conclusive facts. The agents who are pushing these claims and who are always just about to succeed, but never *do* succeed—except in extracting fees, generally assert that the estates are in the court of Chancery, where they await appropriation after a few little formalities have been complied with. The chief accountant of that court states, in answer to Minister PHELPS'S inquiries, that the whole amount of unappropriated property therein is £84,000, of which £83,000 belongs to persons who are known, and who are probably litigating for the possession of it. The remarkably small sum of £1,000 only belongs to unknown heirs.

The BLADE office is deluged with letters of inquiries about these fortunes. We can only give this general answer: keep your money, and abandon all dreams of sudden fortune from this source.

POSTAL SAVINGS BANKS.

It is said that there will be a vigorous effort made to get Congress this winter to adopt a system of postal savings banks. It is asserted by the friends of the measure, that the present system of savings banks is inadequate, and that the working men and poorer classes, as a rule, lack confidence in their stability. Hence, it is argued, there is a field for the government to fill, which can best be done by postal savings banks. The system which was introduced in Great Britain has been a great success, and has now extended to Belgium, Japan, Italy and the Netherlands. At any postoffice savings bank deposits are received of any sum not less than a shilling (25 cents) nor more than £30 ($150) in one year. When the deposit amounts to £1 ($5), interest is allowed at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum. At every postoffice blank forms can be obtained free of charge, upon which twelve penny (two-cent) postage-stamps can be affixed; and, when the form is thus filled, it will be received at any postoffice savings bank as a deposit of 25 cents. Every depositor in a postoffice savings bank receives a deposit book, by means of which he can make fresh deposits at, or withdraw his money from, any postoffice savings bank in the United Kingdom. The popularity of this system is shown by the fact that the deposits in these postal savings banks now amount to $200,000,000, while the number of depositors is nearly 3,000,000. The real value of this system is shown by the fact that it seems to have actually created all these savings, for the business of the private saving banks in the country has gone steadily on in the meantime.

THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

A twelvemonth ago, the BLADE, in speaking of the prospects for the new year just opening, expressed the opinion that we had then just passed through the worst part of the business depression; that the closing month of 1884 had marked the lowest point, that values had then touched "bed-rock," and that 1885 must necessarily witness a revival of business interests.

The prediction has been fulfilled within the past year, in a steady, slow, but sure improvement in the conditions of trade. There has been no boom, no sudden and wild period of business excitement; but the improved conditions now present everywhere over the land are the result of a safe upward and onward movement, that has in it all the elements of duration and stability. The outlook is all in our favor, and the country enters upon 1886 with confidence that the conditions now existing possess in an extraordinary degree of stability, and the well-grounded hope that the year now opened will witness a much greater improvement than that just closed.

Let us look at these conditions. The balance of trade is well maintained in our favor; the crops of the North and West furnish an immense surplus for the markets of the world; the staples of the South score up in the hundreds of millions in excess of the average yield. In fact, the very abundance of the harvests of the land has kept prices so low that, while it has furnished our consumer class, our workingmen and their families, with cheap food, and thus been a benefit to them, it has prevented our farmers and planters from realizing such full returns as would have materially increased business—for the more money the producers have, the more they buy, and the better it is for every line of trade and commerce.

Still, our mines and mills are quickened by the steadily increased demand for their products; industry is slowly but surely commanding better wages and is increasing its consumption; the general and crushing indebtedness that prevailed among the people of all conditions of life ten years ago, has been reduced to the minimum; money is called for to enter into the productive enterprises of life and commands solvent and prudent borrowers, and there is not a channel of industry, commerce or trade that is not to-day sensibly affected by the general and healthy improvement of the times.

LOCAL OPTION IN CANADA.

The success of the local option plan in dealing successfully with the Rum Power in Georgia and other Southern states, calls attention to the famous Scott act of Canada, which is effectively doing a similar work in the Dominion. There has been in Canada, as in the United States, a steady progress of public sentiment in favor of prohibitory measures.

The Scott act provides, in brief, that when one-fourth of the legal voters in any municipality sign a petition for the application of the act, the Dominion government orders an election therein, at which the voters decide for or against its adoption. If it carries, the sale of all liquors as beverages is prohibited at once. The penalty upon conviction for the first offense is $50 and costs; for the second offense not less than $100 and costs; for each additional offense, imprisonment. No appeal from the decision of the court that tries the case is allowed. One-third of the fines are retained as a fund for prosecuting violators of the act.

The first city to avail itself of the provisions of this law was Fredericton, the capital of New Brunswick. At present it is in force throughout the entire island of Prince Edward; in thirteen out of the nineteen municipalities of Nova Scotia; in ten out of the sixteen municipalities in New Brunswick; in two out of the six municipalities in Manitoba; in 27 out of 47 municipalities in Ontario, and in five out of 60 municipalities in Quebec. Eighty-five contests over the act have been held, and it has been defeated only sixteen times. Seven times its repeal after adoption has been sought, and it has been supported every time, generally by an increased majority over that which caused its adoption in the first place.

There is a strong and growing sentiment in favor of prohibition on the local option plan all over the country. One can hardly pick up a newspaper but he finds evidence it in paragraphs like this from a Pittsburg paper, referring to Huntington county, Pa.:

The temperance people have worked up to such a sentiment that it is probable the courts will refuse to grant licenses next year. The feeling against the liquor traffic is very strong, and the judges of the courts are said to be strongly in sympathy with the temperance movement.

There is not the smallest doubt but that the work of practical prohibition in Ohio has been hindered by the mingling of politics with the liquor question. That the prohibition sentiment is growing in this state is beyond question, and it will soon have such force that measures for the suppression of the liquor traffic will become a necessity. What form it will take is uncertain, but it is probable that it will be some form of local option.

DURING the first six months of the year just closed, the stock market was very dull, with a net advance for the active stocks of less than two per cent. on July 1, as compared with the opening quotations January 2. From that time, however, until the latter part of November, there was a persistent and almost continuous upward movement, which resulted in a net average advance for the most active stocks of about 25 per cent. In some instances the gains were considerably larger. A moderate reaction later in the year has been followed by a very firm but somewhat less active market, and the year closed with a confident belief in Wall street that prices higher than have been seen at any time in 1885 will be reached at no distant date.

A SPECIAL cable from Vienna denies authoritatively that Count KALNOKY'S confidential dispatch to Baron SCHAEFFER, the Austrian minister at Washington, contained the alleged clause,

The position of a foreign envoy wedded to a Jewess by civil marriage would be untenable, and even impossible in Vienna.

These words were given by Baron SCHAEFER to Sec. BAYARD on his own authority, as a mere expression of his individual opinion, and not an utterance of the Austrian government. KEILEY cannot be made an international issue. BAYARD'S position regarding his rejection is ridiculous.

THERE are indications that Russia and Austria are each secretly arming, and it is reported that each government has ordered large quantities of military stores from England. This looks as if there was trouble ahead.

NASBY.

To the Editor of the Blade Camp Fire:

Well, after our night's bivouac [illegible] Piedmont battlefield we resumed our [illegible] up the valley. Arriving at Staunton [illegible] met Gen. Crook's division, accompanied [illegible] quite a detachment of cavalry. [illegible] trained there a few days, after which [illegible] took up the line of march to Lynchburg [illegible] the Natural Bridge, Hawk's-Nest and [illegible] erty on the Virginia & Tennessee ra[illegible] There we destroyed the railroad for [illegible] also some rebel supplies and proper[illegible] burned a number of bridges.

Then on to Lynchburg through bro[illegible] greenbriars almost too thick to pen[illegible] We met with but little resistance fr[illegible] rebels until within a short distance [illegible] city. There Gen. Crooks' division be[illegible] advance that day, had quite a brush [illegible] the Johnnies, but drove them into the [illegible] trenchments, and had we been allo[illegible] could have gone directly into the city [illegible] accomplished our mission. We lay on [illegible] arms all night, and the next day we c[illegible] not get there, for boys do you not [illegible] member that rebel cheer, and "Dix[illegible] and "The Bonnie Blue Flag," by [illegible] bands, as reinforcements came pouring [illegible] from Richmond? We had considerable [illegible] skirmishing and some sharp fighting during [illegible] the day, while the cavalry were getting [illegible] their work elsewhere. I do not know why [illegible] we made such a circuitous route to get to [illegible] Lynchburg, but when the second evening [illegible] came we could readily understand why we [illegible] did not go back the short route. Old G. P. [illegible] Early was a little *too* "early" for us, and [illegible] Hunter thought it best to "hunt" another [illegible] road. We went via Lexington, Salem [illegible] and White Sulphur Springs, crossing [illegible] mountains and valleys and down [illegible] the Great Kanawha river, [illegible] meeting with many hardships, as our supplies were exhausted, and but little in the [illegible] land to forage, consequently we had but [illegible] little to eat except birch bark for several [illegible] days, until we were met by a supply train [illegible] from Charleston. We were almost worn [illegible] out from our long and weary march day [illegible] and night. We were transported by steamboat and cars back to the Shenendoah valley, again to confront Early.

F. R. YOUNG, Co. E, 12th W. Va.
Ellinwood, Kan.

Scoring the Spy.

To the Editor of the Blade Camp Fire:

My attention has been called to a letter in the BLADE of November 6, over the signature of "Dixie," late spy of the Cumberland. I will state in the outset that I am a Democrat of the most uncompromising stripe, Southern born and bred and am proud of both facts, as much so as I would be were I a Northern man and a Republican; and I honor the man be he from the North or the South, be he Democrat or Republican, who if honest in his convictions and has the courage to avow his opinions anywhere and everywhere. I am aware that many northern people, from pure ignorance of the true state of affairs, believe the South to be a hornet's nest for Northern emigrants. I give them credit for mistaken honesty. There are others who know better, but who for political reasons seek to keep up the strife between the two sections. There is still another class, who have come south to make a living among the people they traduce, who are treated well but who have no trait of a better people so despicable, who are so blinded by prejudice that they condescend to the meanest falsehoods to keep alive the old discord.

To this class belongs "Dixie" who flaunts his slanders under a name which he of all others should extend his hatred to, not having the courage to come out like a man. It is just such chaps as he who keep up this miserable sectional feeling that has existed so long between the north and south, but which happily is being allayed by the majority of the people of both sections. Heaven hasten the day when it shall disappear from our land forever!

He cannot be an honest, conscientious man, else he would certainly be aware that he is doing more harm than good. There is not a word of truth in his statements. I have lived in various portions of the South, from Maryland to Texas, and I never yet found any community who would ostracise any northern man on account of his principles if he was honest in them. Every northern man that I ever met generally became a good southern man, not from any fear, but because he soon finds out that our people are honest in their political course, and he would rather act with the intelligent white men of the country, who are bound to rule the South because it is a white man's country, and because, too, he cannot consent to surrender his idea of the superiority of the sturdy Anglo-Saxon race to the ignorant negro. At present I reside in Texas, and you may happen to call to mind that this is the banner Democratic State of the Union. There are thousands of northern men scattered throughout the state, they enjoy perfect liberty of thought, speech and action, and in numerous instances occupy positions of honor and trust. My nearest neighbors are old Union soldiers, and not a man thinks the less of them for that; they enjoy their political and social rights, as much so as the old Confederates who are their neighbors and with whom they live in perfect harmony. They are good men, good neighbors, and are valuable members of the community. They realize that the issues over which they fought were settled by the war, and are willing to forgive and be forgiven. But our doughty "Dixie" is not. Evidently he would not be happy in Heaven with old confederates as companions.

He boasts of his exploit in killing a confederate. I assure my doubts about that unless he hid in the bush and shot him in the back, which is extremely likely, as he was a spy. He is still carrying on his old business. As regards the people where he lives, he is afraid to show himself, but like the mangy cur he is, skulks behind and tries to bite the heels of those he is afraid to meet fairly. LONE STAR.

Waxahachie, Tex.

A Surprised General.

To the Editor of the Blade Camp Fire:

I was a member of the independent division of the 24th army corps of the army of the Potomac, under Gen. Thomas M. Harris, late colonel of the 10th W. Va., and who was subsequently promoted a brigadier general for gallantry in battle. In this division were the 40th, 11th, 12th and 15th W. Va., 34th Mass. 54th Penn. and the 116th Ohio. I was in the campaign of the Shenandoah valley in 1864, under Gen. Sheridan. In December, 1864, our division was sent to the army of the James, where we laid until March 26, 1865, north of Deep Bottom, on the right of the army.

The division was then ordered to Hatcher's run, where it took a full share in the advance made on Lee's army, never halting until after Lee's surrender at Appomattox, and after a short visit to Lynchburg, Va., we returned to Richmond, Va.

The true grit of these troops may be appreciated by an incident occurring about March 1, 1865. In the other division of our corps was the 10th Connecticut, which had been recently recruited with bounty jumpers, who deserted to such an extent as to cause wholesale execution of deserters. No great were these deplorable casualties that the utmost vigilance was enjoined upon the officers by Gen. Ord, commanding the corps. One day, however, Gen. Ord, riding down our picket line, to his horror found our men had laid aside their arms and were trading with the rebels for tobacco and other things. At once on his return to corp headquarters Gen. Ord sent for Gen. Harris and demanded explanations for such breach of discipline. There were given with the assurance that our boys were of the right stripe, and had no need of trial by drum-head court martial, this occurring [illegible]

THE French Government seems to be in a position before the people that insures for it, as now constituted, anything but a permanency. The Chamber of Deputies has voted the Tonquin credit, as asked for by M. BRISSON, but it was only after a prolonged debate, and then by a bare majority of four. On Wednesday last the Premier made a most earnest speech, declaring that if the country's honor was to be preserved, the whole of the credit of 75,000,000 francs must be granted, that a failure to do this would compel France to break honor with China and Anam, and cause her disgrace before the world. He said that a refusal or even a reduction of the credit would be considered tantamount to an expression of a want of confidence in the ministry. The small majority given was virtually a defeat of the government, but the ministers will probably retain their portfolios until after the election of the President, which takes place next Monday. This makes the second government whose downfall the Tonquin affair has caused.

APPLICANTS for office, whose names have been on the civil service record for six months or more without having been reached, will be hereafter dropped. A new application can be made if the applicant is not in that time discouraged.

CURRENT EVENTS.

During the last month nearly $30,000,000 in gold has been received by the treasury at Washington from San Francisco.——The Union Pacific road has again placed a large number of men at work on an extension from Manhattan to Marysville, in Kansas, a distance of 75 miles, to unite its parallel systems for freight transportation.——The civil service commission, embarrassed by applicants for place, has decided to permit no request for examination to remain on its books longer than six months.——The people of South Carolina report having in the past five years paid off $500,000 of the state debt, added $66,000 to the wealth of the state, and built 240 miles of railroad.——It

THE PANAMA CANAL.

The truth about the Panama canal enterprise seems to be that its final collapse can not long be delayed. The enormous sums raised by DE LESSEPS have all been spent or dissipated, and the total result of five years' work has been an amount of digging absurdly small as compared with its cost. Engineer MENOCAL, of the United States navy, who visited the Isthmus last May and carefully inspected the work, reported that by the company's own statement only 9 per cent. of the digging had been done, and by his own estimate only 6 per cent. The earth for a distance covering 70 per cent. of the route had not been touched. Dr. ARTHUR GORE, who inspected the work in August, reports that "for the $120,000,000 already expended there was nothing to show in the way of a canal but a superficial scratch in the hard mass of volcanic rock through which it was proposed to cut a passage." The American engineers estimate that in the event of the Frenchmen being able to control the river Chagres—a stream with a heavy fall, and subject to enormous and sudden floods—and all other obstacles being overcome, the canal cannot be completed in less than fourteen years, or for less than $061,000,000.

The canal company has already bonds and obligations amounting to $153,000,000, and has spent, as said above, over $120,000,000. It is out of funds, and has hardly made more than a beginning of the great work it set itself to do. M. DE LESSEPS has appealed to the French government for help, but the latter has hitherto kept itself free from all financial responsibility in the matter, and it seems doubtful that it will shoulder the enormous burden which the completion of canal will entail. The Panama route is not practicable, is the verdict of the best authorities nf this nation who have given it a critical examination. That is, the natural obstacles are so great, including the problem presented in the Chagres river, that the cost of construction would be so enormous that it would be impossible for the tolls to pay even the interest and maintain the repairs.

The grand success of DE LESSEPS in the Suez canal prompted the Panama undertaking. The objections urged by United States engineers were represented to be prompted by national jealousy, and the sneers of the English press at the Suez scheme was pointed out as a parallel case. But the natural conditions of the two isthmuses are entirely different. The Suez canal runs through a level desert, an almost rainless country, and presented only the problem of enormous excavation. The Panama isthmus is rugged in surface, and the route has difficulties undreamed of by those who so freely furnished the money for the undertaking. The Nicaragua route will be the one to be utilized, if the two oceans are ever connected by an American canal.

A LACK OF LEADERS.

One of the remarkable features of the present House of Representatives is the weakness of the Democratic side in leaders. Of the 103 Democratic representatives from the South—of whom 68 have had previous Congressional experience, there is hardly one who has any claims to recognition as a leader, save CARLISLE of Kentucky, and REAGAN of Texas. The proscriptive policy which has prevailed there since the close of the reconstruction period has resulted in keeping at the front men whose chief recommendation is a devotion to a lost cause, who are busied chiefly with reminiscence, who are, in the full meaning of the word, Bourbons. The result is that men who face the past are incapable of a wise, broad and liberal leadership, of formulating policies demanded by the needs of the present. What material for leadership may be developed among the new members it is as yet too early to say, but there is no good reason for expecting that the places of half a dozen or so really able men, who were members of the last House, have been made good. Democratic leaders from the North are also conspicuous by their absence. Mr. RANDALL alone has shown himself able to weld together the discordant elements of his party and lead it in the direction of a comprehensive policy, and he is repudiated by a majority of his party. As for MORRISON, he is chiefly conspicuous for his failures, while HOLMAN and SPRINGER are hardly to be thought of in connection with leadership. The prospect before the majority for winning the respect and confidence of the country is not a brilliant one, and it will find itself met by a compact minority led by men like REED, HISCOCK and LONG. The task before the Democracy is one which requires leadership, but the leaders have not yet materialized.

THE BLADE is in receipt of the following letter from a Democratic subscriber up in Michigan. The writer is evidently one of the Jacksonian school, a mossback Bourbon of the straitest sect, whose prime article of faith is that the spoils should be apportioned among the victors without loss of time:

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

It now looks as though the Democratic party, grand in its principles, its traditions and its achievements, was about go to pieces under the weight of hard-earned prosperity. For 24 years it bore up bravely under adversity and after each defeat came out fresher and more united than before, and now when all these years of patient trials have been rewarded by success, it looks as though the party was going to be disrupted and torn asunder by internal dissensions. If the party can't stand together now since they have been successful, d—n such a party. A DEMOCRAT.

GEN. LOGAN'S reassignment to his dol position at the head of the Senate committee on Military Affairs was a tribute due to the signal ability he has shown in controlling its operations for the years he has filled the place. His re-election to the Senate was delayed beyond the time of the reorganization of the Senate committees at the extra session last March, and Sen. SEWELL, long a member of the same committee, was advanced to the chairmanship under the rule of priority. He took a sensible view of the matter on the reassembling of Congress, and accepted the chairmanship of another committee to allow LOGAN to be returned to his old position.

IT is announced that Sec. BAYARD does not intend to appoint poor men to diplomatic positions. He proposes to select men of wealth, who can "entertain liberally, fulfill all social duties devolving upon them in a fitting manner, and maintain the dignity of the United States without being obliged to confine themselves to the salaries which they receive." The Democratic masses of the country will be glad to find that the "reform" administration proposes to make money the test for office, and not consider character, ability or experience.

Correspondence.

TO CONTRIBUTORS.

The BLADE does not pay for volunteer contributions of any kind. If poems, stories, sketches, etc., are sent to us, we will use them, if available; if not, they will be returned only if stamps are enclosed for that purpose. We will not hereafter preserve ANY MSS., and we will NOT be responsible for any sent us.

SILVER AND GOLD.

Harmoniously Married for Ages; of Late Parting Company. Why?

BY F. J. SCOTT.

The why may be found in the legislation of a few great nations, and all within fourteen years.

Germany, a despotism, the United States, a democracy, sandwiched with a money aristocracy, have been pushed, blunderingly and unknowingly, to do the mischief.

In previous papers I have stated the fact, too patent to need to be argued with intelligent men, that nine-tenths of the value of either metal comes from its use as coin. Strike at that use for either, or lessen it, or even threaten to lessen it, and the effect is the same as if by the enactment of laws against the use of corn for food, or by raising a panicky belief in its unwholesomeness we should thus lessen its use, depreciate its value, and at the same time raise the price of the grains which would take its place. Even prospective disuse produces an immediate loss of some parts of the value, and the extent of the fall will be proportioned to the extent of the disuse probable or possible. Look at the following table. It is compiled down to 1830 from the most eminent German authority, Soetbeer, and since 1830 from English authority.

RATIO OF SILVER TO GOLD FOR TWO HUNDRED YEARS.

	Highest.	Lowest.	Extreme variation from Av.	Average.
1687-1700	14.81	15.03	19-32ds to 18-32ds	14.96 to one
1700-1760	14.14	15.41	11-32ds to 1-32ds	15.01 "
1760-1800	14.14	15.55	21-32ds to 16-32ds	14.66 "
1800-1810	14.12	16.00	1-32ds to 25-32ds	15.65 "
1810-1820	15.11	16.25	1-32 to 15-32ds	15.66 "
1820-1830	15.70	15.96	25-32ds to 7-32ds	15.79 "
1830-1840	Eng.			
	Annly.	15.81	15.93	31-32ds to 1-32ds	15.875 "
1840-1850	" "	15.70	15.93	23-32ds to 1-32ds	15.85 "
1850-1860	" "	15.19	15.59	47-32ds to 15-32ds	15.38 "
1860-1870	" "	15.28	15.60	34-32ds to 15-32ds	15.46 "
1871	(Prof. Laughlin, Harv'd Univ.)				15.37 "
1872	"	"	"		15.65 "
1873	"	"	"		15.82 "
1874	"	"	"		16.07 "
1875	"	"	"		16.62 "
1876	"	"	"		17.1 "
1877	"	"	"		17.23 "
1878	"	"	"		17.93 "
1879	"	"	"		18.39 "
1880	"	"	"		18.06 "
1881	"	"	"		18.24 "
1882	"	"	"		18.37 "
1883	"	"	"		18.51 "
1884	"	"	"		18.58 "
1885	"	"	"	Estimate	19.00 (?)

Observe what rapidity and regularity of fall from 1871 to the present time. German silver demonetization began in 1871, but that government did not get much of its old silver in readiness to throw upon the market until a few years later. The United States consummated its undermining act on silver in 1873 but it was again several years before its effects began to be felt. But they have worked together, they have been cumulative. They have shrunk silver and swelled gold. For what good? For whose benefit?

I omitted to mention Sweden as one of the countries which joined with Germany to demonetize silver.

France immediately after her war with Germany (1871) had to pay $1,000,000,000 in coin to Germany. Of this, $54,009,000 was was paid in French gold and a large part of the remainder in gold drawn from other nations. The latter then had upwards of $375,000,000 silver coins in use, which she set about withdrawing from her own people to sell to some other people. By 1880 she had got in $270,000,000, had sold $106,000,000, and had the remainder on hand to threaten the market with. But her sales so called silver to drop that soon she was paying a high price for her gold. The curious anomaly presented itself a few years after the war, that the nation, which paid out $1,000,000,000 as a war tribute, was prosperous, and rich at home as ever, while the nation that received the tribute, and paid out her silver to get more gold was relatively unprosperous and poor!

If, as the table above so clearly indicates, legislation has caused the fall of silver, is it not a suicidal policy for our country to join in the crusade to raise the price of gold and to debase its own coin? Will it not be a suicidal policy *not to reverse that tide of legislation;* in other words, by a bold avowal, to stand by her old silver-unit dollar, and sell gold while it brings the monstrous price it now commands?

Legislation has been the great factor in depreciating silver to raise gold. Let the people now use it to restore the balance of power between them. Legislation has shrunken the length of the silver yard stick, and expanded the gold one. Reverse the legislation and the two will soon begin to equalize. The old silver unit, the old silver dollar, free coinage alike for gold and silver, and a copious export of gold will do justice and bring prosperity. Adding to the value of gold, and destroying that of silver is a monstrous injustice that will bring only adversity.

A BASELESS CLAIM.

The $50,000,000 Raid on the United States Treasury, Founded on a Misconception of the Law.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

I have read in the BLADE an account of a raid on the treasury, under an old law, to the tune of $50,000,000, which had come to light through the circulars of certain claim agents at Washington, addressed to widows of soldiers all over this country informing them that they are entitled to receive on account of the deceased husband, a sum of money, not in the nature of a pension, amounting to between $800 and $500, and offering to prosecute the claims for a contingent fee of 25 per cent. To make this scheme for the $13,000,000 of fees more certain, the claim agents at Washington have issued another circular to attorneys who prosecute claims for soldiers and their heirs in different states to join in the outerprise with whom they will divide the fees. Having prosecuted soldiers' claims, I have received one of their circulars. It says:

"These claims arise under an act of Congress passed many years ago, which law was incorporated by the compilers in the Revised Statutes, numbered section 1056. It is needless for us to state that we have not engaged in this matter without the advice of the most eminent counsel in the country, who have been retained by us to assist in bringing these claims to a successful issue. We believe that every dollar of these claims can and will be collected, and to this end invite your active co-operation.

"For your assistance in the matter we are willing to allow you one-third of our fee on all claims you may be able to send us, which will average $40 to you for each claim. As these cases must go to the courts and the expense of litigation is to be borne by us, this will make an equitable division of the proceeds, and we believe it will pay you to make an energetic canvass for widows and heirs in your vicinity.

"While it may appear to you that you can prosecute these cases without our aid, when you consider that all the details of the prosecution, and the various obstructions that we are likely to meet in the courts are known to us and our counsel alone, and we alone are prepared to meet them successfully, you can but see that you will be much more liberally remunerated for your trouble by working through us, than if you attempted it by yourself, as all that you will have to do is to look up and send us the claims and receive your fee."

I have examined this matter, and have come to the opinion that the Washington claim agents have made a very stupid blunder of the law in force, or else they are not honest in claiming there is any authority of law for the claims they are making. The act of March 17, 1836, upon which the claims were based, was one in the nature of a *pension,* and not of bounty. Soon after the establishment of this government, Congress granted pensions to widows of soldiers of it had the monthly pay to which the deceased soldier was entitled at the time of his death, for and during the term of five years, and when one period of five years had expired Congress would extend the time for another period of five years, and this had been repeatedly done prior to 1836. The last extension prior to 1836 was in 1834, and did not include children, as the children had become too old to be entitled. Section 6 of the act of 1836 would seem to limit its benefits to service in the Florida war, then existing. It says:

"That the volunteers and militia mentioned in the foregoing provisions of this act called in the service before its passage, shall embrace those only ordered into service by the commanding general or governors of states and of the territory of Florida, under authority from the war department, for repressing the hostilities of the Florida Indians."

Suppose that the widows' pay provided for by said act was not thus limited and that the law is still in force; then the widow has already received the half pay of her deceased husband, not only for five years, but for all the time since his death. The soldiers' pay in the last war was $16 a month and the pension of his widow has been one-half of his monthly pay, or $8 a month ever since, or while she remained his widow. So the government has already paid the widows all that they can be entitled to under the old law, and even more.

Montpelier, Vt. T. J. DEAVITT.

The Southern Bourbons.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

In a recent number of the BLADE I saw a communication written by "Southern Man." Now I have lived among the rebels over ten years and find some of them reconstructed, but the majority of them are the same old rebels they were in 1861 with the motto of "Rule or ruin," and they will commit fraud at every election where they can, and claim a loyal man has no business among them. They also claim that the Republicans are waving the bloody shirt. Now my opinion is that the Republican party is to blame for giving them the right of suffrage; the leaders should all have been executed and the others disfranchised for life. I like the good old BLADE, its politics, and its plan of prohibition is the only way it will ever carry through. I am a Republican every inch and will never vote for prohibition as a party measure until there are enough states to defeat the Rebel Democrats, but my opinion is in '88 we will succeed and then we will have another war with the same rebels. I think a negro that behaves himself is better than any rebel and the constitution gives every man a vote, white or black, and if the blacks are in the majority they have a right to rule just as much as the white rebels.

South Branch, W. Va. NORTHERN MAN.

Prepare for Spring Elections.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

We are very much pleased with the position that the BLADE takes on the temperance question and all great reforms.

I, for one, can't see my way clear to leave the Republican party as yet. I think that there is work to do in the party, yet a man must remember that to vote is the highest privilege of an American citizen, and one where the highest and the lowest are all brought to the same level. A man should consider his vote too sacred to be cast for any man engaged in the whisky traffic. If he can't find a better in the other party better black his ticket over and vote it blank than vote for such men. A few blackened names in the ballot box would be a lecture that would tell at the next caucus. I am tired of seeing members of churches, Christian temperance people, and all voting for men who will sign the bonds for sellers, or who are engaged in the manufacture or sale of the vile stuff, just because they are on their party tickets. I would suggest that the W. C. T. U. should circulate a pledge against voting for such men now, or some time before the excitement of the spring elections. I am sure it will make the parties more careful in the selection of candidates when they know that several hundred men are pledged not to vote for such men. L. B. RICE.

Port Huron, Mich.

The Reason Why.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

I am a great admirer of the BLADE. I am with you in your fight against the great evil of intemperance. I think Prohibition is a local or state question, and not national. When we get neighborhoods, counties and states worked up to it, the general government will come in right. I do not believe in trying to elect a Prohibition president and splitting the Republican party, and electing a Democrat, as was done last fall.

Let us pull together and get the reins of government in our hands again in '88. The Democrats are too much in favor of "free whisky" to split to amount to anything. Hurrah for Blaine for '88!

(No Postoffice). C. F. C.

An Ancient Relic.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

I have in my possession a more ancient relic than the picture painted by Gen. Grant. It is the sad-iron that Mrs. Martha Washington used to iron George's ruffled shirt bosoms. Mrs. Washington gave the iron to my wife's great grandmother, and she gave it to her grandmother, and my wife recollects of seeing her give it to her mother, who gave it to my wife. She was born 60 miles from Richmond, and her great grandmother was Mrs. Washington's house-maid. The iron is still in use in my family. HENRY STRATE.

Palmyra, Ills.

Not a Toy.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

Accept my thanks for the Waterbury watch which arrived in good time and in good order. I must confess she is far ahead of my expectations. I started it with our clock that is a regular timekeeper, and it has neither lost nor gained since. It is the first one that has come to this part. Some tried to make me believe it would be a toy or dumb watch, but they are disappointed. But I had no fears. I had good faith in Nasby. JOSEPH HAWTHORNE.

Brookville, Penn.

Kind Words from Wisconsin.

To the Editor of the Toledo Blade:

I like very much to read the numerous articles on temperance published in your valuable paper. Count me, if you please, as a true soldier to the temperance cause and its defenders. May success crown your efforts in striving to "pulverize the rum power." EMMETT COOK.

Mill Creek, Wis.

Gold Fields,

that pan out richly, are not so abundant as in the early California days, but those who write to Hallett & Co., Portland, Maine, will, by return mail, receive free, full information about work which they can do, and live at home, that will pay them from $5 to $25 per day, and upwards. Either sex, young or old. Capital not required; you are started in business free. Those who start at once are absolutely sure of snug little fortunes.

THE BLACK HOLE OF CALCUTTA.

Some Account of a Most Horrible Event.

When the English were gradually extending their influence in India at about the middle of the last century a prince named Surajah Dowlah became nabob of Bengal. He was vicious, cruel and tyrannical, and, besides cherishing an implacable hatred of the English, he never lost an opportunity to rob them. Seeking occasions for a quarrel, he at length complained that one of his subjects had been detained in Calcutta by the English traders and set out with an army to punish the intruders. The British officers in Fort William became panic-stricken on hearing of his approach and fled to the ships, leaving several hundred people in the town in a defenseless condition. The Bengalese had no trouble in reducing the fort and taking the English occupants of the town into custody. His success so elated Surajah Dowlah that he became drunk, but, promising to spare the lives of his captives, ordered them out of his presence and continued his debauch. The guards then marched the English, 146 in number, to the Black Hole, a place used by the garrison for a prison. It was only twenty feet square, and had no ventilation save that which was afforded by a few port-holes near the ceiling. The prisoners, thinking at first that the guards were joking, made light of the order to enter the hole, but they were at length undeceived. All were forced into the narrow place, and the doors were bolted and barred. It was during the summer solstice, and the heat was intolerable even out of doors and in the shade. The unhappy prisoners were soon stifled by the oppressive atmosphere, and then began a struggle for breath and life in which the weak succumbed to the strong. Toward midnight one of the Englishmen offered the guard a bribe to be let out, but the mocking answer was that the nabob could not be seen until morning. To add to the sufferings of the prisoners the natives held lighted torches at the port-holes and placed water just beyond the reach of the unfortunates, who, by climbing on the piles of dead bodies within, could reach the embrasures. Soon thereafter the groans and shrieks from the captives died away, and when morning dawned and the doors were thrown open 23 half-crazed, ragged and pallid wretches crept forth over the festering bodies of their 123 comrades who had gone down in that awful struggle. That is what the black hole of Calcutta was. The imprisonment of 146 human beings in any kind of a dungeon of that size in a tropical climate would produce similar results. A few months later Lord Clive avenged these victims of Surajah Dowlah's savery by dispersing that Prince's army, deposing him from the throne, substituting Meer Jaffier in his place, and adding Bengal to the British Empire.

Would Look Out for the Children.

Dying husband—If you think, my dear, that it will be better for the children that you should form new matrimonial ties after I am gone, do not let the memory of me stand in the way. Marry some good man who, for your sake, will be a kind father to our little ones.

Wife—D-do n-not worry, John. I w-will l-look out for the children.

FITS: All fits stopped free by Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. No Fits after first day's use. Marvelous cures. Treatise and $2.00 trial bottle free to Fit cases. Send to Dr. Kline, 931 Arch St. Phila., Pa.

1885's NECROLOGY.

The Role of Noted Names Whose Owners Have Gone to the Tomb.

Among the famous ones of earth who have gone over to the "silent majority" during the past twelve months the roll begins with our greatest general, Ulysses S. Grant. Of others who won fame in the civil war, the mind readily recalls Gen. George B. McClellan, Gen. Irvin McDowell, Gen. James McQuade, and Rear Admiral George H. Preble.

Of men of note in public life who have died during the year were Vice Presidents Colfax and Hendricks, ex-Senators Frelinghuysen, Fenton, Sharon, Toombs and Gwin, known as "Duke" Gwin, ex-Gov. B. Gratz Brown and ex-Sen. Jake Thompson, and our wealthiest man, Wm. H. Vanderbilt, is among the well-known ones who have to the grave.

Literature has been drawn upon heavily, and some of the brightest lights in the splendid firmament of thought have been distinguished. The scholar and author, Richard Grant White; the promising young writer, Hugh Conway, who had just begun to make a great place and name for himself; Dr. Joseph Alden, the author, educator and editor; Mrs. Hosea Hunt Jackson, the poet and author, who ranks high among the literary women of America; the wise, quaint Henry W. Shaw, better known as Josh Billings; Hinton Rowan Helper, author of "Helper's Impending Crisis;" T. S. Arthur; and Mrs. Susan Warner, author of the "Wide, Wide World."

The musical world has lost Dr. Leopold Damrosch, Brinley Richards, Arthur Burt, the solo cornet player; Ferdinand Hiller, Col. W. A. Pond, the music publisher, and Gen. Henry K. Oliver, who 80 years ago composed "Federal Street."

The religious world has yielded up several of its most elevated exponents. The Catholic church remembers Cardinal McCloskey, the first and only American honored with that high office. The Episcopal church has parted for the time from the elder Dr. Stephen H. Tyng. Methodism has paid its tribute to Dr. Benjamin F. Tefft, and the Presbyterian church notes the decease of the venerable Dr. Samuel Irenæus Prime.

Mrs. Myra Clark Gaines, the famous litigant; Charlotte Cooper, daughter of the great novelist, James Fenimore Cooper; Mrs. Frances Vanderbilt, widow of the Commodore, and Mrs. James Russell Lowell are among the notable women who have passed away during the year.

Clark Foss, the last of the famous stage drivers of early California days; James W. Marshall, the discoverer of gold in California, poor, old, and disappointed; Charles Wright, one of the leading botanists of America; Lieutenant Commander Henry H. Gorringe, who brought Cleopatra's Needle to America at Vanderbilt's expense; George T. Hope, president of the Continental Life insurance company of New York; Fred L. Winston, president of the great Mutual Life; James H. Rutter, the brilliant railroad manager and president of the New York Central; Gilbert D. Walker, an ex-governor of Virginia since the war; Isaac W. England, publisher of the New York *Sun;* General Auson Stager, Commodore C. K. Garrison, Thomas C. Fields, of Tammany fame or (infamy); Elizur Wright, the statistician and writer, are all careers that have been closed by death during the year; poor John McCullough has passed off the stage forever, and Dan Mace, the famous driver, has gone down the home-stretch and passed under the wire.

France has been called to mourn for her greatest Frenchman, the venerable Victor Hugo, full of years and crowned with many honors.

Germany has lost the Emperor William's old friend, Baron Von Wonteufel; his brilliant but hot-headed nephew, Prince Frederick Charles, the dashing Red Prince of many campaigns; and Franz Abt, the charming song writer.

England mourns the loss of gallant Fred Burnaby, slain in battle; the untimely death of Gordon, a character unique and perhaps in many ways not yet fully comprehended; Sir Moses Montefiore, the noble Jewish philanthropist; Sir Francis Hincks, and Lord Houghton, better known perhaps as Richard Monckton Milnes, the graceful poet and essayist.

Besides Alfonso, Spain has lost the brave and sagacious Marshal Serrano.

The National Complaint.

Dyspepsia is the national complaint. Almost every other man or woman you meet has it, and the result is that the number of pseudo-remedies for it is as numerous as Pharaoh's host. They are for the most part worthless. There is, however, a searching ordinant of this distressing and obdurate malady, one whose genuine merits long since raised it to a foremost place among the staple medicines of America. Hostetter's Stomach Bitters extirpates dyspepsia with greater certainty and promptitude than any known remedy, and is a most genial invigorant, appetizer and aid to secretion. These are not empty assertions, as thousands of our countrymen and women who have experienced its effects are aware, but are backed up by irrefragable proofs repeatedly laid before the public. The Bitters also promote a regular habit of body, and give a healthy stimulus to the urinary organs.

Drawing the Line on Babies.

Washington Post.

It has been calculated that the President can shake hands with just 40 persons per minute when there is a large crowd. Yesterday he took things more leisurely, and it was about ten minutes before the room was cleared. In the middle of the stream of visitors was a small, rather loudly dressed lady of uncertain age, who was leading a little girl-baby by the hand. The little thing stood scarcely two feet high. The mother smiled sweetly upon the President as she grasped his hand, and the President smiled upon her. Encouraged, perhaps, by this, she stood still, and then remarked, indicating the two-feet high cherub. "This is my baby."

"And a pretty little thing it is, madam," replied Mr. Cleveland, the smile still visible around his lips.

"And it's only two years old," persisted the mother. "Won't you kiss it?"

The President looked at the crowd yet to be shaken, looked at the little mite he had been asked to embrace, and the smile fell with a dull, sickening thud. He whispered something in the lady's ear and she retired.

"Brown's Bronchial Troches" are excellent for the relief of Hoarseness or Sore Throat. They are exceedingly effective."—*Christian World, London, Eng.*

Publishers' Column.

OUR SEWING MACHINE

ENTERPRISE!

NOTICE TO APPLICANTS FOR CIRCULARS!

At last, after delays as innumerable as vexatious, we are ready to make a positive announcement.

We have the best machine, as we verily believe, now on the market; we warrant it to be as handsome a machine as any, and greatly superior in point of style and finish to the most, and we warrant them without reserve to do everything claimed for them, which we shall sell direct to to the people, without the intervention of middle men, on the following terms:

THE BLADE SEWING MACHINE AND THE Weekly Blade One Year, FOR $18.

This is half that any good machine sold the old way can be bought for.

We put the machine securely crated, on board cars, the freight to be paid by the party ordering it.

Those ordering the machine who are already taking the BLADE will be credited with one year in advance of the time for which they have paid.

☞The BLADE machine is not sold by agents, and can be procured only of us and on these terms.

Remit by Postoffice order, or drafts upon New York, Chicago or Toledo.

CAUTION.

We especially desire our readers not to confound this machine with the cheap machines so extensively advertised. All these other machines are either old ones rebuilt, or machines built from expired patents and without the modern improvements. The Blade Machine is entirely new, with a dozen improvements, built of the best possible material and in the best possible manner, by skilled workmen and with machinery of our own construction. We warrant it to be the best machine for family use on the market.

The Blade Company Guarantees This.

We shall commence shipping machines early in January, and ship daily thereafter. Machines will be shipped in the order in which orders are received.

Be particular as to giving addresses, and please designate whether you want them sent by freight or express.

ORDER AT ONCE.

Address BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

P. S.—Every machine will be thoroughly tried and tested before leaving the factory

TO THOSE WHO DO NOT TAKE THE BLADE.

Persons not subscribers to the BLADE and who may receive this number, are requested to examine it carefully. Of course if it pleases them we want their subscriptions. Look over the various departments and see whether anywhere you can get so much for the money.

Our terms are $1 a year, 30 cents for three months.

And please read the Publisher's Department on the fifth page, as well as advertisements elsewhere, and note the combination offers we make. Everything we advertise we guarantee, and you take no risk in availing yourself of anything we offer. Try the BLADE. Subscribe at once, and you will not be disappointed. It is beyond question the best family paper in the world, which statement 120,000 families will attest.

THE THREE GREAT GENERALS—GRANT, SHERMAN AND SHERIDAN.

We have published portraits of the three great Generals of the war, Grant, Sherman and Sheridan, which are the best portraits of the heroes that have ever been put upon paper. John S. Kounts, late commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, says that our portrait of Grant is the best ever published, Sen. Sherman says that our portrait of his brother, the General, is the best and most life-like he has ever seen, and we know that the portrait of Sheridan was never excelled. We have printed these superb portraits on the finest plate paper, size 19 by 24, and will mail them to any address, post-paid, as follows:

Singly	25 cents
The three, to one address	50 cents

In combination with the Blade—

The Blade one year with either	$1 15
The Blade one year with all three	1 40
The Blade three months with either	40 cents
The Blade three months with all three	06 cents

We guarantee these portraits to be the best for the price ever printed, and they should be on the walls of every loyal family in the United States. Never put upon the market by other publishers for less than from 50 cents to $1. We could not do it, except for the large sale we are certain to have.

☞Agents and others can make money selling these portraits. Write to us for special terms.

THE BLADE'S TEMPERANCE CARTOONS

To Temperance Workers, Societies and Organizations.

The BLADE, months ago, conceived the idea of instructing the people in the Temperance cause by means of appeals to the eye. To the end of arousing public sentiment we have issued two cartoons. for posting, the first of which has been scattered all over the United States. Of this one we sent out, gratis, nearly 100,000, which is our contribution to the great cause.

BLADE CARTOON, NO. 1.

"Do You See Any Good Coming Out of It?"

This is a very forcible picture. In the center is a bottle labelled "Whiskey," though a label is unnecessary. From the mouth of the bottle issues a vapor which separates in four sections, crowning each being pictures representing Murder, Beggary, Gambling and Delirium. On one side of the bottle is a devil and on the other a bar-room loafer, with appropriate sketche filling in the corners.

It is a powerful presentation of the evils and certain results of Intemperance.

BLADE CARTOON, NO. 2.

"Which Way Would You Have Your Boy Go?"

A series of pictures, commencing with the face of a beautiful three-year-old, who starts in life on an equality with all other three-year-olds. On the upward line comes first the clean-faced boy of 10 on his way to school; next, the young, ambitious student of 18; then the young soldier of 21; then the middle-aged, strong man of 30; and, lastly, the hale and hearty old man of 70.

The contrast is another line of pictures, viz: The street boy already under the influence of rum, with the stub of a cigar in his mouth, at 10, the hoodlum at 18, the bar-room loafing ruffian at 21, the tramp and criminal of 50, and the broken-down vagabond of 70.

There can be no more forcible presentation of the subject in pictorial form, and no cartoon can be devised that will better tell the whole story and do it at a glance.

BLADE CARTOON NO. 3.

"Which Way Would You Have Your Girl Go?"

Our next Cartoon, which is now rapidly being mailed, is entitled, "Which way would you have your Girl Go?" It contrasts the life of a girl who marries a sober man with one who weds a drunkard, and is quite as effective as those that have preceded it.

BLADE CARTOON NO. 4.

"In Which Village Would You Bring Up Your Children?"

This is the title of our Temperance cartoon, No. 4. It is an exceedingly spirited illustration of two villages, one under Prohibition rule and the other under the control of the Rum mills. It is quite as effective as its three predecessors, and will do as much toward arousing the public sentiment upon this great question. Those who have ordered the three preceding ones should add this immediately.

BLADE CARTOON, NO. 5.

We have just issued another Temperance cartoon, the fifth in the series. It bears the inscription, "This farmer never drank whisky—this one drinks all he can get." It is quite as effective as its predecessors. On the one side is a farm house looking as do all farm houses where whisky never got a hold, clean, neat and prosperous. On the other side of the sheet is a farm house whose proprietor does drink, slovenly, shiftless-looking, and wrecked as possible. The contrast is sharply drawn and the picture is a most effective one.

We have made a price on them, which barely covers the cost of paper and postage:

Three copies of either	6 cents.
Six copies	10 cents.
Twenty-five copies	30 cents.
One Hundred copies	One dollar.

This gives no profit, the price covering only cost of printing, paper and postage. We contribute wrapping paper and labor.

We want them pasted up so that they will stay, in every shop, store, factory, and on fences where they will be seen, in every section of the United States. There must be a temperance sentiment developed, everywhere. The people need awakening. Order them—the cost is barely nothing.

Send in your orders at once, and when received post them where they will be seen. We shall follow these with others.

O.T. Curious and Sporting Books for Gents. List for stamp. Box 281, Woodbury, N. J.

BIG PAY For introducing Buckeye Churn. E. E. BEARD, Republic, Ohio.

OREGON LANDS 30,000 acres in tracts to suit. Send 10cts. for pamphlet giving prices, climate, &c. G. M. Miller, Eugene City, Or.

A Young Frontiersman wishes young lady correspondents. Address Jack Baker, Greenwood, Lawrence Co., Dakota.

DR. BURGHER'S Permanent Cure for General Debility, Lost Manhood, Kidney and Urinary Disorders. Quick, sure. Send for circular giving full particulars. J. S. Griffin, East Haddam, Conn.

AGENTS WANTED! Liberal terms allowed. Address J. MONROE PATTEE, Box 455, St. Louis, Mo.

FILL YOUR OWN TEETH WITH CRYSTALINE. It stops toothache, arrests decay, lasts a lifetime. Agts wanted. Circular free. T. F. Truman, M. D., Wells' Bridge, N. Y.

Unerring Instrument TO FIND WATER, MINERALS AND METALS. For particulars address with stamp. JOSEPH HOFLINGER, 2,628 Chouteau ave., St. Louis, Mo.

☞CAPITAL PRIZE $75,000.☜ Tickets only $5. Shares in proportion

L. S. L.

LOUISIANA STATE LOTTERY CO.

"We do hereby certify that we supervise the arrangements for all the Monthly and Quarterly Drawings of The Louisiana State Lottery Company, and in person manage and control the Drawings themselves, and that the same are conducted with honesty, fairness, and in good faith toward all parties, and we authorize the Company to use this certificate, with fac-similes of our signatures attached in its advertisements."

G. T. Beauregard
J. A. Early

Commissioners.

We, the undersigned Banks and Bankers will pay all Prizes drawn in the Louisiana State Lotteries which may be presented at our counters.

J. H. OGLESBY, Pres. Louisiana Nat'l Bank.
SAMUEL H. KENNEDY, Pres. State Nat'l Bk.
A. BALDWIN, Pres. New Orleans Nat'l Bank.

Incorporated in 1868 for 25 years by the Legislature for Educational and Charitable purposes—with a capital of $1,000,000—to which a reserve fund of over $550,000 has since been added.

By an overwhelming popular vote its franchise was made a part of the present State Constitution adopted December 2d, A. D., 1879.

The only Lottery ever voted on and endorsed by the people of any State.

It never scales or postpones.

Its Grand Single Number Drawings take place monthly, and the Extraordinary Drawings regularly every three months instead of Semi-Annually as heretofore, beginning March, 1886.

A SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY TO WIN A FORTUNE. FIRST GRAND DRAWING, CLASS A, IN THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC, NEW ORLEANS, TUESDAY, January 12, 1886—188th Monthly Drawing.

CAPITAL PRIZE, $75,000.

100,000 Tickets at Five Dollars Each. Fractions, in Fifths, in proportion.

LIST OF PRIZES.

1	CAPITAL PRIZE		$75,000
1	do	do	25,000
1	do	do	10,000
1 PRIZES OF $5000			12,000
5	do	2000	10,000
10	do	1000	10,000
20	do	500	10,000
100	do	200	20,000
200	do	100	20,000
500	do	50	25,000
1000	do	25	25,000

APPROXIMATION PRIZES.

9	Approximation Prizes of $750	6,750
9	do do 500	4,500
9	do do 250	2,250
1967	Prizes, amounting to	$283,500

Application for rates to clubs should be made only to the office of the Company in New Orleans.

For further information write clearly, giving full address. POSTAL NOTES, Express Money Orders or New York Exchange in ordinary letter. Currency by Express (all sums of $5 and upwards at our expense) addressed

M. A. DAUPHIN,
New Orleans, La.

or M. A. DAUPHIN,
Washington, D. C.

Make P. O. Money Orders Payable and address Registered Letters to NEW ORLEANS NATIONAL BANK, New Orleans, La.

Read Carefully the Last Paragraph of this Advertisement.

BOOKS FOR WINTER READING!

With or Without the BLADE.

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Social Etiquette,

The Household.

MISS EMILY S. BOUTON, EDITOR.

CONTRIBUTORS writing for this department will please observe the following rules:

1. Write "Household Department" on the envelope.

2. Give real name and Postoffice address—not for publication, unless you wish—but for reference in case it is necessary to write you by mail.

3. Write only on one side of the paper. Write PLAINLY. Do not interline. Write briefly.

HOME TALKS.

WOMAN OR LADY?

Not long since I was in a dressmaker's establishment and in the course of a conversation with the proprietor, she spoke of a difficulty she had recently had with her "*forelady.*" The term seemed so utterly incongruous, the outcome of such a senseless, silly pride that I could hardly listen quietly. Yet a word of remonstrance would have been met, I doubt not, by the indignant assertion that, the girl "had as much right to be called a lady, as if she did not work for a living." And so she had. Her individual personality had nothing to do with the matter. Her employer spoke of her in her business capacity only, and not at all with reference to her qualities of manner, mind or heart.

It is this silly affectation that renders women often ridiculous in the eyes of men. To them it seems an inherent weakness. Who ever heard of a foreman in a shop or factory being offended because he was not termed a fore-*gentleman*, and yet there is just as much sense in the one as the other. No one ever thinks of saying a sales-gentleman, but the woman who stands behind the counter demands that she shall be named a sales-lady, or her feelings are injured beyond repair. I heard of one girl who left a good place, although she was really needy, because she heard her employer use the offensive suffix when speaking of her with reference to her work. That girl needed a little starving for the chance that an empty stomach might invite good sense.

Of course I know that all women who occupy these positions are not so foolish, that there are those—and their number is increasing every day—who recognize the fact that they are business women, working women, and not society ladies, and that they must claim nothing during working hours, or in connection with their employment, beyond the courtesy that men and women should use towards each other under all circumstances.

Business is business, and the moment a woman enters its arena, she must divest herself of all thoughts of caste, grades or social distinction of any kind, so far as that is concerned. Her position is measured by what she is worth in dollars and cents to her employer, just as that of a man is, and the sooner she recognizes that fact the better for her happiness and success. The question of whether she is or is not a "lady" does not enter into the matter. That is reserved for the social and home circles to decide.

I think the majority of business and working women will agree with me when they go over the ground carefully, even though they have hitherto been sticklers for the term "lady" instead of "woman." Take the dictionary definition of the former word. It means

1. A woman who looks after a family; a mistress; the female head of a household.

2. A woman of social distinction or position, etc.

3. A woman of gentle and refined manners.

4. A wife or a spouse.

Not a single one of those meanings can can enter, except in a limited way, into the business part of your lives. "Gentle and refined manners" will have their influence anywhere, but they will not save one of you from failure if you lack the necessary qualifications for your position. I have seen women successful in their undertakings who were anything save "gentle and refined," but they were industrious, prompt, willing to oblige, and what they had to do was done well.

It would be far more dignified and self-respecting for working women to throw away these affectations, and call things by their proper names as men do. There is no disgrace in working. That only comes in when you are ashamed of it. No one lives but would be glad to be placed in such easy circumstances that labor would not be compulsory, but it is the small minority who are so fortunate, and any attempt to wear the fine feathers that belong to them is worse than useless. It deceives no one.

Do not misunderstand me, you who insist upon being called sales-lady and forelady. It is not the desire to be considered a "lady" to which I am objecting, but the false pride that pushes the appellation where it does not belong. No doubt this pride grows out of the prejudice, of which there are still many remnants, that taught that woman who went out from the home circle and worked in the world as men do, unsexed herself. Nor has labor yet been freed from reproach, and it will not be, so long as those who do it act as if ashamed of the fact. As a people we boast of our independence from the caste prejudices of the old world, and yet nowhere is there greater effort to draw lines of social demarcation. They get terribly crossed, it is true, because in so many cases there is neither rhyme nor reason in their starting. We have no servants such as they have in Europe, who feel an honest pride of place, and of the confidence reated in them. Here they become lady-helps, ready to fly into ten thousand pieces if it should be hinted that they were not upon a social equality with their mistresses. They have not a particle of the self-respect which dignifies their position, no matter how lowly it may be, nor do they understand that self-assertion, with absolutely nothing behind it, is of no avail.

I do not expect to have any influence with ignorance and vanity, but I do want to beg my sister women of intelligence and good sense, both in and out of the labor field, to use their influence to put down these absurd affectations. To be a true woman under all circumstances is a far nobler thing than to be a "lady" in its common, if abused, acceptation. The one implies all that is good and admirable; the other an extraneous gloss, which may or may not cover a weak and dishonest character. I feel with Ella Wheeler Wilcox when she says:

Give us that grand word "woman" once again,
And let's have done with "lady."

One's a term,
Full of fine force—strong, beautiful and firm,
Fit for the noblest use of tongue or pen—
And one's a word for lackeys.

One suggests
The mother, wife, and sister; one the dame
Whose costly robe, mayhap, gave her that name
One word upon its own strength leans and rests:
The other minces, tiptoe.

Who would be
The "perfect woman" must grow brave of heart
And broad of soul, to play her troubled part
well in life's drama. While each day we see
The "perfect lady," skilled in what to do,
And what to say, grace in each tone and act
(This taught in schools, but needs serve native tact),
Yet narrow in her mind as in her shoe.

Give the first place, then, to the nobler phrase,
And leave the lesser word for lesser praise.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

Fancy Work and House Decoration.

Handkerchief Sachets.—These are made in many different ways and are extremely pretty. Take two squares of contrasting color of satin and fringe them out an inch deep all around. Paint or embroider a little pattern on each and then cut a square of cotton batting, sprinkle it with sachet powder, lay it between the satin squares, and fasten them together with stars made by crossing gilt threads or some bright color, put in a quarter inch apart all around the four sides just above the fringe. Another way is to cut a square of the batting, say about six inches to the side, sprinkle it with the powder, cover first with Swiss muslin. Then over that weave ribbons an inch wide in and out on both sides, choosing pretty contrasting colors. Sew the ends together at the sides and put a cord around for a finish.

Still another way is to take four or perhaps five pieces of different colored ribbons a quarter of a yard in length each, and fringe each end to the depth of an inch. Sew them together in the form of a square, letting one edge just overlap the others; cut the batting of just half the size, or rather what it is folded diagonally. Put on the powder, and then fold the square over it so that the two sides are fringed, and sew them together.

Make a bag of lace with the powdered cotton inside, and enclose it in a bag of satin fringed around the top and fastened an inch below the fringe by a band of ribbon tied in a pretty bow on one side. The beauty of these things depend upon their delicacy and the choice of colors, but they make dainty little gifts to friends.

"Fancy Work and House Decoration" will help you about making pretty gifts for household adornment. Send 25 cents to Miss Emily S. Bouton, Toledo, O., and get one.

Fabric Painting in Oils. No. VII.

PARROT ON WHITE VELVET.—This may be used on a large plaque covered with white artist's velvet. The paper mache plaques cover nicely, cutting the velvet a quarter of an inch larger than the plaque, and fastening it on around the edges with royal glue. Colored velvet and plushes may be fastened on plaques or wooden frames the same manner. Stamp the design on the velvet before attaching velvet to the plaque. The "clipped" sable brushes will be required for this work, one fine and two medium sized ones. Turpentine will be the only mixing oil required. The following paints will be needed: Chrome green, No. 3; emerald green; cobalt blue; vermilion; chrome yellow; silver white; a vandyke brown; burnt sienna. Also one bottle of gold paint with the mixing oil which accompanies it. Paint the branch on which the parrot sits with vandyke brown, to which a very little burnt sienna and white has been added. Take out your paint on your palette, and add just a drop or two of turpentine to blend it with. Clean your brush before putting it into another color. Paint the leaves with emerald green, to which a touch of chrome green has been added. Make them a little darker on one side; afterward veining the leaves with burnt sienna.

Paint the bill pure white, and the front and back of head with pure Chinese vermillion, and the eye with chrome yellow.

Paint the neck chrome yellow, lightened with a little white. Paint the breast with emerald green and yellow well mixed. Paint the feet with a little brown and yellow well mixed. Edge the wings with first a stroke of vermillion and then a stroke of yellow. Paint inner part of wing with cobalt blue and emerald green, equal parts of each, well mixed. Paint the inner tail feathers with chrome green.

The back over the wing should be green ish blue, made by mixing chrome green and cobalt blue. Paint the tail proper with brown, white and Chinese vermilion. Around the eye a circle of light brown, made of white and vandyke brown.

If this design is wanted for a panel instead of a plaque; after the velvet is painted, mount it on a smooth board with beveled edges, placing a thickness of white cotton sheeting over the board.

E. S. L. THOMPSON.

Winchester, Ind.

Knitting and Crocheting.

Knitting Abbreviations—k, knit; p, purl or seam; p 2 tog, purl two together; n, narrow; s and b, slip and bind; t t o, throw thread over; b, bind; o, over; sl, slip; m, make.

Crocheting Abbreviations—l, loop; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; ch st, chain stitch; cl ch st, close chain stitch; d c st, double chain stitch; p, picot; r c, ribbed crochet; c t st, turned crochet stitch; sh sl, shell stitch; o s st, open shell stitch; t, treble; sh c, short crochet.

Fluted Lace With Edge.—Cast on 22 stitches. 1st row—plain; 2d row—k 16—o—n—o—n—o—k 2; 3d row—k 9—p 11—leave three stitches on the needle unknit this time, turn and go back. 4th row—k 14—o—n—o—n—o—k 2; 5th row—k 10—p 11—k 3; 6th row—k 18—o—n—o—n—o—k 2; 7th row—k 11—p 11—leave 3 unknit; 8th row—p 11—k 3—o—n—o—n—o—k 2; 9th row—plain; 10th row—k 3—p 11—k 6—o—n—o—n—o—k 2; 11th row—k 24—leave 3 unknit; 12th row—p 11—k 7—o—n—o—n—o—k 2; 12th row—bind off until you have 21 on your left needle, and 1 on your right, then commence with 1st row.—A. B. C.

Rose Bud Lace.—Cast on 10 stitches, knit across plain. 1st row—s 1—k 1—t o—n—k 1—t o 2—n—t o 2—n—k 1; 2d row—k 3—p 1—k 2—p 1—k 2—t o—n—k 1; 3d row—s 1—k 1—t o—n—k 3—t o 2—n—k 3; 4th row—k 5—p 1—k 4—t o—n—k 1; 5th row—s 1—k 1—t o—n—k 9; 6th row—slip and bind off 3—k 6 t o—n—k 1. Repeat.

Correspondence.

GIRLS AGAIN.—I have been a reader of the BLADE for a long time, and the home talks have been especially interesting. I think that perhaps a letter touches a great many of us. I don't believe it is a very great blessing to be "Jack at all trades," for anybody. There are so many of us who can do almost any kind of work, but it is thoroughness in a certain one that we need. We have been comfortably raised but circumstances were such that we were obliged to assist at home. If we could go in other people's houses and receive the same treatment we do at home, there are many of us who would prefer to do housework.

I am one of these. I received an education so that I could have taught school but I disliked the thought of being a schoolteacher, and whatever the inducements a person ought not to undertake work which she has no natural taste for. I am called a first-class milliner, but that is a business one has only six or eight months in a year. I stayed with an invalid lady for about a year and took charge of her house and did everything just as I should for myself, but such places are hard to find. She died and it seemed almost as though she had been my own kindred.

I found it easy and pleasant to do the household duties and when they were done I could dispose of my time as I chose. She introduced me to all her friends, and almost every one thought I was a relative. I—and I think there are many like me in this—am willing to work, am willing to do what is right and all that is right, but when one has moved in good society to know that she ought to be earning something, and has had no training in any one thing is not a pleasant thought.

I have read many articles in the home department on the servant question, and my sympathy is with the girls. I like to work, but want to be treated as though I was white. We are all human and nobody knows what place they will be called upon to fill, and I think if we are kind and pleasant to all, we will be better satisfied with ourselves. I, too, would like to open correspondence with some of the household readers. AGNES.

ONE MOTHER'S WAY.—A while back I saw a letter from a mother, who did not know how to amuse her little ones. I never had any trouble when my children were small, but now they are large I find I must try to teach them to love their homes, so they will not wander to places of sin.

There is a drug store here, at least that is the name it goes by, but it is nothing but a place to lure boys into and get them to drink. I have two boys that I want to raise to be temperate, good men. How am I going to do it? Well, this way: I take the BLADE, and three other papers, and I read to them evenings and we play checkers together. My husband thinks money is put to a good use when we get good reading.

I do not tell my children that they must believe this or that, but believe the Bible as Christ teaches. Now some mothers say: "I have no time." Well, I have plenty to do but my children are first. The work can be put aside, their souls cannot. My boys do not use tobacco and I hope will never use it. I hope the BLADE will go on doing all the good it can to put down that stuff that causes the poor mother's hearts to break. MISS ROSA MARQUIS.

FROM IOWA.—Not having seen Iowa represented in the columns of the HOUSEHOLD lately, I will say a few words in behalf of my state. I live in the temperance city of Vinton, which is situated on the banks of the Cedar river. The surface of Iowa is rolling prairie, the soil fertile, all kinds of grain is raised, and in stock-raising, Iowa ranks among the leading states. We have two large public school buildings in our city, and five churches, a canning factory which furnishes work for a great many people, a skating rink, an institution of which but few approve. The state college for the blind is located here. The Normal institute is now in session here, with an attendance of 180 teachers. Teachers can exchange ideas, and get information that helps them greatly in their work. I have taught one term of school, and like teaching very much. I should never offer prizes. The subject was discussed by the teachers at the Normal, and it was decided best not to give prizes. I saw a letter from my cousin, who lives in Aleppo, Pa., and hope that she will write again. I sign my real name.—JESSIE JONES, Vinton, Benton co., Ia.

TEACHING.—To "One of Them," I would say that you are placed in a peculiar position—not one of your pupils being able to converse with you.

If a majority, or even one-half of your pupils, could speak and understand our language, it would not be difficult to bring the others to it. All that you can do is to keep moving along with your work, as you would in a school where all were able to speak and understand our language, with such additions and variations as your judgment may dictate. Take anything in the room with which they are familiar—a crayon, slate, or book—and talk with them about it, its color, uses, etc., taking care not to make it tedious. Never seem to become discouraged, but appear to take delight in the exercises.

I am teaching a school of 40 pupils, all of whom are German save three. I take great pains with them in such reading as "This is mine book," "Went they on the ice," "He is a pat poy," etc. A teacher who becomes impatient to an extent noticeable by the pupils is, without doubt, in the wrong place. I speak from experience and observation, having been engaged in the work for 25 years. As to requiring pupils to answer perfect or imperfect, I do not think they are competent judges. I decide who is perfect and who is imperfect.

I am careful to grade in deportment and effort. This is the only just grading that can be done in our country schools, as a boy 12 years old may deport himself just as well and be just as persevering as a boy 18 years old, yet the older boy may make more advancement than his younger class-mate. I give the same grade to each. As to whispering I do not forbid it, but give all to understand that it is intolerable, and that grade in deportment will tell who did or did not whisper. In this way the pupil teacher can keep it within tolerable limits. If my school becomes restless, as it is apt to in the afternoon, I become very quiet, taking a position at the greatest distance from my class possible in the room, and read and speak in a very low tone, that all, in order to understand me, must listen attentively. When I am done with this class I dismiss it quietly, and am careful that each pupil moves quietly to his or her seat. Now the school is very quiet in order to hear my call for another class, which will be in a low tone.

As to instructing very young pupils in what is called "Written Arithmetic, I can say that I have had much experience in starting "the little folks" in this very useful science. The young pupils are classified, and take their turn at the blackboard just the same as the older members of the school. My primary class is called to the board, and each is supplied with crayon and eraser. I am very careful that each takes a proper position at the board, and remains in that position awaiting directions from me. I give them sufficient instruction in position, making and combining figures consisting of units and tens' place, and then give them such as this: Add together 12 cents and 13 cents, always concrete numbers and something that will please the "little folks." Thus I do throughout the primary principles of arithmetic. If "One of them" will send address, will go into details.—ISAAC N. GREEN, Scipio, Anderson Co., Kas.

EXAMINATIONS.—"Earnest Teacher" asks for ideas about monthly examinations. I believe all wide awake teachers will accept, without discussion, that examinations should be held. First, they should be held at stated periods, say monthly, if you please. I say "stated," for what we have not a regular time for will be neglected. They should be written. "Writing makes an exact man." We know a pupil may recite orally very creditably, and make a complete failure in a written recitation. Nothing facilitates expression like writing. We have too many pupils and "grown up people, too," who "know it, but can't tell it."

The word "examination" often bring to the pupil feelings of dread. This should be avoided. Call them by some other name—simply a review, or written recitation. Make them so pleasant that they will not want to stay away to get rid of them. Shakespere says, "No profit goes where is no pleasure ta'en."

They should aim for the good of each individual pupil, therefore rivalry should have no place whatever in them. An incentive to study may be given by sending to their homes monthly reports, averaging daily recitations with examinations.

Would like to hear from some one about rhetoricals for Friday afternoons or other general exercises. Should they be compulsory? COUNTRY SCHOOL MA'AMS.

Inquiries.

Will some of the old hens in the readers of the BLADE, who use furnaces in their houses to burn hard coal, commonly called Russian ovens, kindly describe the same as we want to make one.—E., Dakota T.

1. Please tell me if there is such a thing as beautifying the complexion permanently. 2. If so is it injurious to the health? 3. How much would it cost?—Zoo.

There is absolutely nothing that will make the complexion good except good digestion, and its consequent good blood. Then if you take care not to get tanned, and do not allow your skin to be roughened by wind and weather, you will be all right. Cosmetics almost all injure instead of benefiting. Wishing the face in soft water and then giving it a good deal of gentle friction with a soft towel will help.

If you will send a dollar to the Locke Publishing company, Toledo, O., and get "Health and Beauty," you will learn much that will benefit you in this direction as in many others.—ED.

Would some one of the many kind readers of the BLADE HOUSEHOLD, send me instructions for making the little wire and paper boat wheel with the sawyer and washerman attachments; and the whole attached to the side of the stovepipe, from which is derived the motive power?—CECIL BURTON, Gunnison, Col.

1. Can a young lady take up a homestead as men do? 2. If so, how old must she be?—E. M. B.

1. She can. 2 She must be of age.

About six or seven weeks ago a farmer wrote a long account about chickens. He said he had raised 1,000 the last summer, and would send to the readers of the BLADE plans for an incubator that he was using, and as it was not in the 5th of December, (as he wrote it would be) I would like his name and address, as I am very much interested in chickens.—JEN.

Will some one tell me if there is a remedy or partial remedy for lard so badly scorched as to render it unfit for cooking? If there are any members of the HOUSEHOLD who have a lot of back numbers of literary papers or magazines who desire to give them away, I will gladly send postage to get them for winter reading.—OLD SOLDIER.

Will "M. L.," of BLADE No. 47, please inform me through the HOUSEHOLD department if there is any distinction between pine tar and pine gum. Also, can you furnish me with milkweed root, should I not succeed in getting it elsewhere? How is it prepared for use, and how taken? You will confer a great favor by responding to these questions.—Mrs. W. C. FERBANK, Watsonville, Santa Cruz county, California.

Will some of the readers please send the BLADE a recipe for citron cake?—A. B. C

Will some of the many readers of the HOUSEHOLD please send a cure for Eczema?

Will some one tell me how to use up the odds and ends of worsteds that have a great many different colors?

Which is the best way to hang up a horseshoe—with the two sides down or up?

How shall I fix a horn to make it pretty for a parlor or sitting room?

Will some one send a cure for piles; also, for canker on the tongue or throat?—DELLA.

Permit me to ask a few questions.

1. Upon being introduced to a lady, who should speak first, and what should they say?

2. Upon starting to escort a lady from church, should I ask her to take my arm or should she do so without my asking; and if so, when?

3. Is it improper to ask a young lady for a good-night kiss?—GREENHORN.

You should both bow at the same time. The gentleman should speak first, unless the lady chooses to address him. What he should say depends entirely upon circumstances. Some general remark about the weather, the place, the company, etc., would be proper.

The gentleman should ask the lady to take his arm on leaving the church door.

Unless you are engaged to her, it is.—ED.

Answers to Inquiries.

I see a request of M. L. M. (in 17th BEADE of December,) to know how to prepare the milk weed. I failed to get my BLADE of 19th, and by the way the other reads, think there is a mistake, so I will describe the weed first. Name—silk weed, or milk root—grows a single stock in a place. The stock is a a reddish cast, leaves branch out like a little tree, seed in pod four or five inches long. Each seed is attached to tassel of silk. Root is several feet long and four to six inches under ground. Medical prescription says two feet of root and one quart of whisky, but as I am no friend to Mr. Whisky, I used it by chewing it, but those who have not good teeth can make a tea and drink a swallow after each meal. It will stop that burning sensation and cleanse the blood and cure constipation to perfection. I know it will cure 9 out of 10, for I have seen it tried.

I will suggest a little help to some mothers like myself in the HOUSEHOLD. In washing dishes, wash and turn all in a colander or sieve, or an open pan set in some larger vessel, and pour boiling water over. Do not wipe, but let sit while you finish up, and your dishes will be nicer and take but half the time; and get you a can lid and bend it half up so you can catch it and scrape your kettles and pans, etc., with it. Beats the wire dish all to pieces. Then you can find more time to read the good old BLADE. I have five children and not even a sewing machine, but hope for one before the BLADE'S ere long. Oh, I did want the sister in Indiana to give me the fascinator stitch and direction, also to tell the sisters when mending little stockings to take the crochet hook. I hooked my babe's stockings and it is so speedy. I wish writers would sign their names and address, as then we could often write and ask the person questions without worrying the editor. —MRS. M. A. LAUGHLIN, Palmero, Carroll Co., O.

I want to tell "Honey Bee" to get the Cuticura remedies for her baby with milk scald. I know it will cure it. My baby was as bad as it could be. Its head was all covered with a thick crust and it spread behind its ears and the baby moaned and cried all the time. No doctor did it any good. I took off his cap and in a week's time the crust was all gone. He is now fifteen months old and has nice hair, not a pimple and all through his teething. I used all the remedies and took the blood medicine myself while I was nursing him. I cured my cankered sore mouth and stopped my sick headaches.—MRS. G. W. BERNHARDT, Menominie, Dunn Co., Wis.

Tell "J. E. B." to drop a few drops of turpentine on a little sugar and let it go gradually down the throat. Also rub copiously on the outside. Do this a dozen or more times a day until the soreness is all gone. Whenever a sore spot comes in the throat that you cannot seemingly hit with water when you swallow, begin over and follow faithfully, and a few times will cure permanently. I had it in 1867 and did not even swallow water for a week and would rather swallow a gallon of benzine and fire it than have it again. It came back every time I took cold for nearly two years, but I have it no more though the first time I tried the turpentine it went from one side of my throat to the other several times before it yielded.—D. L. B.

This remedy may be a very excellent one but turpentine is a very powerful medicine to take internally, and the directions, "a few drops," very indefinite. We should advise you to ask a physician or druggist what is a safe dose before using it. Any one sending remedies to the HOUSEHOLD should always be careful to give the exact quantity, for people's ideas of a little and a few drops vary so widely.—ED.]

In reading the inquiries I found one asking the cure for dyspepsia, in reply to which I will say that if the person troubled will leave the table before the appetite is satisfied, and not use water, milk or coffee in washing the food down, but chew it until it is moistened enough with saliva to swallow, (drink the milk or coffee after eating) he will be much benefited in regard to dyspepsia, and in strengthening the nervous system.—OLIVER PALMER.

Some one's mother has said that "any girl of sixteen years can whiten and soften her hands by soaking them in dish water three times a day." Yes, and many others, both younger and older, can soak them to their own advantage, as well as the weary mother with her manifold cares. I don't know of anything better to have "living around loose" in a family than *helpfulness*. Girls, don't be particular to put it away out of sight. And boys, don't be afraid of it. It will not harm you.—MRS. A. W. L.

A correspondent in the BLADE of Nov. 20, suffering from "water brash," asks for a remedy. Take a teaspoonful of salt dissolved in half a teacupful of water, and if relief does not follow from one dose, repeat it. It is a sure remedy.—A. W. WARREN, Burnhams, N. Y.

I will say to A. B. C. if she will use bismuth and bay rum, 4 ounces bismuth and ½ pint bay rum, she will have a cosmetic unsurpassed, Try it.—SOLVE.

Please say to "S. R." to rid her bird of mites, take water that onions have been boiled in and wash her cages in it. If the mites are very bad wash the bird all but its head and put a piece of raw onion in top of cage. Repeat if necessary. I destroyed them on a valuable bird with onions when every thing else failed.—MRS J. H. PRATT, Ft. Coeur d Alene, Idaho.

If "Flora" will fill between edge of nail and flesh with raw cotton and scrape top of nail thin she will be bothered with ingrowing toe nails.—MRS. T. W. B.

Recipes.

To Roast Beef.—For tender meat, that is preferred not too well done, fifteen minutes to the pound is a satisfactory rule for a moderate oven. Less tender meat requires twenty minutes to the pound. Cut off some of the fat, divide it into small pieces, and sprinkle it upon the dripping pan. Then arrange the trivets or meat rest in the pan, but no water at first. Rub the meat with mixed salt and pepper, the proportion of the latter being one-half as much as the salt. Dredge the joint with flour and place its lean side upon the trivet, so that the heat will scar the surface and retain the juice. Baste often, and when it is lightly browned, turn it and continue to baste at intervals until it is done. If the bits of fat in the pan are likely to burn, add a few spoonfuls of boiling water after the process of roasting has begun. When the meat is cooked, place in a hot dish and set it where it will keep hot while the gravy is being made. Remove the fat from the pan, add a cupful of boiling water and keep the pan where the contents will continue to boil. The flour that has fallen from the beef and remains in the pan is sometimes quite sufficient for thickening the gravy; if it is not, add more. The boiling should take about 5 minutes, after which pass the gravy through a strainer into the boat. This gravy seldom requires seasoning because the salt and pepper from the meat have fallen into it; but it is well to taste it and thus find out for a certainty if it be flavored properly.—MISS L.

Tomato Soup.—Take 1 qt. tomatoes, add butter size of an egg, 1 pt. of water. Let come to a good boil, then add 1 teaspoonful soda, 1 qt. of milk and salt to taste. To be eaten with crackers. If made as directed, the milk will not curdle.

Doughnuts.—Two eggs, 1 cupful sugar, 1 cupful sour milk, butter size of an egg, 1 teaspoonful soda. Fry in hot lard and roll in sugar.—MRS. H. KIRSCHNER.

Lemon Pie (uncooked).—Four eggs, 1 cupful of sugar, juice of 2 lemons, 1 cupful of cold water, 1 tablespoonful of flour. Stir water, flour, lemon juice and yolks of eggs together, have paste ready and pour mixture in, bake slowly a half an hour. Cover the top with whites beaten to a froth with a cup of pulverized sugar. Return to the oven and let it brown.

Hash Rolls—Prepare the meat as for ordinary hash, chopping it very fine, moisten with a spoonful of cold gravy or meat juice if you have it, add an equal quantity of mashed potato (fresh best) and the same of stale bread crumbs finely grated and soaked in milk or cream. Work all well together with the hand, make into rolls about 3 inches long and half the thickness and brown in a hot oven 15 or 20 minutes, or you may spread the hash in a well greased bread pan and set it in the oven; when browned cut and turn into a dish crusted side up and send to the table.—MISS L.

Sweetening Casks or Barrels.—Half a pint of vitriol mixed with a quart of water, and the mixture poured into the barrel; roll it about. Next day add one pound of chalk and roll again. Bung down for three or four days, then rinse well with hot water.—MISS L.

Bleaching Cotton.—Soak the cloth in cold soft water long enough to have it thoroughly wet. Then take half a pound of chloride of lime, tie it up tightly in a bag, put it in a tub with three pails of cold soft water, stir it about a little, then wring out the cloth, put it into this, and let it stand one hour, stirring it occasionally. Then wring it out and rinse thoroughly in two or three waters, and it is ready for the line. This recipe will remove mildew and other stains. Chloride of lime needs to be used with care, as too much will injure the cloth. —R. F., Maryville, East Tenn.

Catarrh Cure.—Gather common wild mullein and dry and smoke in a pipe. It is a sure cure.—MRS. B. S., Frankfort, Mich.

Sure Cure for Croup.—Boil pigs' feet in water without salt, and let it stand over night. In the morning skim off the fat, (which will be formed in a cake on top), put in a tin pan, boil until all water is evaporated. Bottle and keep for use. Give a teaspoonful every fifteen minutes on the appearance of the first symptoms, and apply freely to chest and throat, rubbing well. A celebrated physician says that a child can not have croup if pigs' feet oil is administered at the first symptoms.

Liniment.—One part spts. camphor 1 part turpentine, 1½ pts. coal oil.

The above liniment is good for many pains and aches. It has cured pneumonia and pleurisy in our family.—D. G. M.

How to Disinfect a Carpet.—If any article of household furniture requires disinfecting occasionally, it is a carpet; especially if it has been used a considerable time. The following is a method recommended by a lady housekeeper, both as a disinfectant and a preventative of moths: Add 3 tablespoonfuls of turpentine to 3 qts. of water. Saturate a large sponge with this mixture, squeeze it about two-thirds dry, and go over the carpet carefully. As soon as the sponge becomes dirty, cleanse it and take in a fresh supply of water.

White Cake.—Whites of 6 eggs; 1 cupful of granulated sugar; ¾ cupful of butter; ½ cupful sweet milk; 1 cupful flour; ¾ cupful corn starch; 1 teaspoonful baking powder. Flavor to suit your taste. I never fail.—NEBRASKA AUNTIE.

Our Young Folks.

BLADE TEMPERANCE LEGION.

MOTTO: *Of Ourselves we will be Masters.*

Pledge.

WE DO HEREBY PROMISE OURSELVES THAT FROM THIS TIME UNTIL WE ARE 21 YEARS OLD WE WILL NOT TASTE INTOXICATING LIQUORS OF ANY KIND, AND WE WILL EXERT ALL OF OUR INFLUENCE TO PREVENT THEIR USE BY OTHERS. WITNESS OUR NAMES:

DRAKEBERN, JACK, ALTAMOUNT, ILL.
Hannah Eshelman, Willard Orrell,
Clarice A Sherrill, GENEVA, IA.
WESTFIELD, N. Y. Maggie Strain,
Irene West, Harvey C Strain,
Lorena Hairne, O'FALLON, MO.
Nettie Seth, Elmo Thurstin,
Mary York, Laura E Thurstin,
Nellie Moran, V K Whitaker,
LINCOLN, MICH. W I Moraty,
Susie Hoyer, W Brandhurst,
Carrie Roe, C H Alexander,
Wm Webster, Linn Brondhus,
Geo Beardsley, MILTON CENTRE, O.
HattieBeardsley, Daisy Hathaway,
John Petersen, HARBURG, IA.
Minnie Kanak, T J Sickinore,
Minnie Engert, SALAMONIE, IND.
Henry Petersen,
Bertie Smith, Elmer Doty,
Jim Tefke, MANCHESTER, MICH.
Alta Devoe, Allie J Hough,
Bertha Eggert, STONE CREEK, O.
Frank Webster, L D Carruthers,
Ella M Webster, MANSING, IA.
Clara Hartman, Ruth Hockett,
Bennie J Ragatz, Ben Hockett,
SALINA, KAS. U S Hockett.
Elmer Hr Griswold KIER, IA.
COTTONWOOD Eddie Claiborn,
FALLS, KAN. Rosa M Wilbur,
Ida Estes, HANCOCK, MO.
YORKTOWN, IA. Eddie Claiborn,
Oliver Castle, Drura Claiborn,
Geo Castle, F H Claiborn,
Alta Castle, HOLSTEIN, IA.
Willie M Clelland, A Buckner,
Jessie M Clelland, Guy Buckner,
Mary M Clelland, BLAIRSVILLE, PA.
E M Clelland, Wilson Hosack,
Maxie B Wiles, Walker Hosack,
John J Wiles, DeWitt Hosack,
Barbara Wiles, Emma Hosack.
Paul B Wiles, RICHMOND HILL,
Grace Wiles, GEORGIA.
ADA, KAN. L M Reightmayer,
Erminie Baldwin, ROCHESTER, IND.
Florine Baldwin, Minnie VanLue,
Bertha E Baldwin, CALIFORNIA, MICH.
Mattie Baldwin, Libbie Cairns,
Hattie A Baldwin, Ida Hanna,
Arthur Baldwin, Nora Hanna,
Mabel Baldwin, Chettie Hanna.
Emma Isidwin, COLVIN, PA.
Josie Elliott, Hattie Budrow,
Minnie Elliott, CANNON CITY, MINN.
Annette Elliott, Edith Herbst.
Maud Wixson, MIDDLE RIVER, IA.
N TH ELMIRA, N. Y. Bennie V Elkins,
Lucy Johnson, ANDERSON, W. VA.
Will Johnson, Fred Sutor,
Nettie Wheeler, Sue S Sutor,
Claude Wheeler, Isaac Sutor,
Mabel Horton, HAGAMAN, ILL.
Nellie Horton, Henry E Wilson,
Charles Horton, Julius E Saunders,
James Horton, LOGAN, IA.
Archie Turner, Homer Cadwell,
Annie Murphy, Maud Knowles,
John Murphy, Claude Knowles,
C Spaulding, Walter Hardy,
Lulu Carpenter, Laura Hardy,
Alice Carpenter, Lorenta VanSickley,
Helen Carpenter, Luella Fritzinger,
John Carpenter, Pearl Penrod,
ROSCOE, ILL. Willie Allen,
Ada F Jones, Fred Iden,
Willie E Jones, Lawrence Merrill,
Jessie K Jones, Robert Harvey,
L J Muchmore, Phineas Cadwell,
H Muchmore, Eddie Milspaugh,
Roy E Muchmore, Robert Harvey,
Bert Ellis, Phineas Cadwell,
Chas A Lovsee, Emma Davison,
Mary L Nichols, Helen Grow,
Ed J Fillinghan, Hattie Petrie,
Sophie Brandt, Beulah Kennedy,
Arthur H DeGroff, Myrtle Copeland,
SHERIDAN, CAL. Sammie Sloan,
Lucy Briggs, Anna Carson,
Jonathan Briggs, Ida Kellogg,
Laura Briggs, Gertie Stebbins,
Ora Maddox, James Hurd,
Robbie Major, TRIBBLE, COL.
Kittie Major, Bessie G Clark,
Minnie Major, Kitty G Clark,
Charly Carpenter, VALENCIA, KAS.
F Carpenter, Guy Krone,
J C Ackerman, Albert Kinsbrule,
Lottie G Badley, Benj Cooper,
Elmer Watson, Hugh Hewins,
Eugene Jordan, Fred Hall,
Hattie Click, SCOTTSVILLE, KAN.
Allen Click, R Cunningham,
May E Novels, W Cunningham,
Jennie Nevels, B Cunningham,
Georgie Nevels, W Cunningham,
Clara E Nevels, W Cunningham,
Charley Prickett, Mary Savage,
Charley Hoffman, C W Allen,
Olive Long, Nettie Allen,
Belle Hoffman, Myrtle Allen,
Freddie Hilliard, May Allen,
Frank Webster, SINGLOM, MO.
Thirza A Platt, Cora McCutchan,
Mary I Platt, E McCutchan,
Mary Pratt, McCutchan,
Eugene B Platt, BELOIT, KAN.
Florence C Platt, John Squire,
MALVOY, IA. Katie Sanford,
Winnie V Smith, Edith Taylor.
Mary A Smith, IOWA HILL, CAL.
Stella Smith, Lizzie Hoath,
A H Childs, Dan M Murphy,
Henry R Childs, Nellie G Brown,
Thomas S Eddy, SCOTTSVILLE, KAN.
Elmer Eddy, Fanny M Smith,
Delicie Eddy, Ethel P Smith,
MINA, N. Y. Eddie A Walker,
Fred O Buell, Hulda Woods,
Grant Waterman, Rena E Woods,
TITUSVILLE, PA. Minnie Curtis,
Grace Alstrom, Martha J Clark,
Ida Alstrom, LAKE CITY, MINN.
CAMPBELL HILL, Lena Burdick,
ILL. Edna Burdick,
Harry B Gordon, Ray Burdick.

Names this week, 334. Total, 2,941.

THE DRAKE AND THE SPARROWS.

BY ASTLEY H. BALDWIN.

The ponds with ice were frozen up,
The snow lay thickly on the ground,
And there was scarcely bite or sup
For living creatures all around.

Beside a pan an old drake stood,
And stuffed and quacked, and stuffed again;
He found the banquet choice and good,
The hungry sparrows longed in vain.

They gathered crowding, twitt'ring by,
Hoped for some fragment of the treat;
With eager chirp and drooping eye
Each watched the greedy glutton eat.

A sparrow pert indignant said,
"For all your lovely jeweled wing,
Your curly tail, your silky head,
You are a selfish, greedy thing.

"You loudly quack and eat your fill,
While we are starving, you are fed;
They make you eat that they may kill,
But you'll be eaten when you're dead.

"'Dog in the manger' is a game
That only for a while will pay;
You play it now—but all the same
It will come home to you some day."

CHRISTMAS IN THE ARCTIC.

BY LIEUT. FREDERICK SCHWATKA.

After the Thanksgiving dinner to our Eskimo friends in the village around us (of which I told you in No. 317 of *Harper's Young People*), you may be sure that they heard of Christmas coming with unfeigned delight, especially when it was known to be another feasting day, with a big feast.

Of course there was one essential element wanting to the perfection of Christmas, and that was a Christmas tree. Around the edge of some of the low marshy fields not far from our village we had noticed, before the snow fell in September and October and covered the ground, a dwarf, stunted arctic willows. The thickest limb was not larger than one's little finger, while the trunk itself—if it could properly be called such—was not larger around than a thumb, and not over a foot high, sprawling over the ground, in fact, like some stunted trailing plant at home. I could not help thinking these willows looked very much like the smaller clumps of sagebrush I had seen on the Western plains when out hunting. They might have served as Christmas trees for the Lilliputs, of whom we read in *Gulliver's Travels*, but for the present race of human beings to use them as such was out of the question. A good-sized Christmas present tied to a little limb would tear it off.

So, at least, we all thought until a member of my party suggested that about a half-dozen of these stunted willows be pulled up by the roots—which could be done as readily as if they were so many cabbages—the roots then to be put into the soft snow of

The Farm.

In this department we cordially invite questions and answers and also communications on agricultural topics, brief crop reports, etc., etc. Communications should be written legibly, and on one side of the paper only, and never on the same sheet with subscription letters. The full name and address should in all cases accompany the communication.

Information Wanted.

ORCHARD GRASS.—Will the writer of orchard grass in BLADE of December 10 please state where it can be bought and at what price, and oblige a subscriber.—MRS. R. C. THOMPSON, Pomeroy, Washington Ter.

LEG TROUBLE.—Have been a reader of your valuable paper for three years, and now write for information concerning my fowls. About five months ago my light Brahmas was troubled with what appeared to be a rough sort of red rash on the flat side of the legs, commencing at first at feet; it then appeared on another—part Plymouth Rock, but with feathered legs, and on this one it extended nearly all over the body. To the last one I applied carbolic acid diluted with water, with only partial success, and as cold weather came on had to kill it, as I did not want to put it with the flock. Now it is commencing on my chickens, always at feet first, and the most among the feathered legs, as I understand the scaly leg is an extra amount of scabs, while in this disease where the rash appears there seems to be an absence of scabs. Will some one please state the name of disease, and if possible a remedy that has been tested. Do not think it is owing to a lack of care of the fowls as I have a comfortable house for them, clean it every day in cold weather, and once in two weeks sprinkle with acid and water or fumigate with sulphur.—A. KNOLL, Omro, Wisconsin. [Try vinegar and glycerine, or the following: Coal tar or pine tar and lard equal parts, in which there is a sprinkling of sulphur.—ED.]

CRANBERRIES—ALSIKE.—Will some one please give information how to start a cranberry patch in low, wet, marshy lands. Also, can I get the plants, and where can they be purchased? Will Alsike clover grow on wet land, and where can I get the seed? —WM. H. H., Oxford, Ia.

DOUGLASS MIXTURE FOR FOWLS.—In the last weeks' prper you spoke of Douglass Mixture for Chickens. Would you please give it in next week's paper, and oblige me greatly? It has not been in the BLADE since we have been subscribers.—MRS. LIBBIE DANUR, Lisbon, Ia. [As the calls for this mixture have been so frequent, we give the mixture again: Add to one gallon of water, one-half pound of sulphate of iron (copperas.) When this is dissolved, add one-half ounce of sulphuric acid. Mix thoroughly and keep in a stone jug or bottle. When used it is ready for use. A greater or less quantity may be made, but the same proportions should be used. Give by putting in the drinking water about one-half teacupful for every 25 fowls. It may be given two or three times a week, and when there is danger of disease every day. This is a most valuable tonic.—ED.]

CARP HATCHERY.—Where are the West Virginia state carp hatchery, and does the state supply them gratis?—J. R. HENDERSON. [Address either of the following West Virginia fish commissioners and they will tell you all about the hatchery: H. B. Miller, Wheeling; C. S. White, Romney; M. M. Lowrey, Hinton.—ED.]

SEEDS.—Can any one give me the name of any seed growers that send seed to parties who wish to raise seed for them?—R. J. C., Carthage, Minn.

LAME PIG.—What is the matter with my pig? It at first lost the use of its fore legs, and would creep place its nose on the ground and support itself. It finally recovered the use of its fore legs and then entirely lost the use of its hind ones, and has been pulling itself around in this state for two weeks. I thought it might be kidney worm, so I put turpentine on its back, and it now seems to be gaining strenth in its hind parts. It has been eating and drinking heartily all the time. Will some reader of the BLADE answer my question and give me a remedy?—WILLIAM T. STONEBRAKER, Poplar Grove, Ind.

CARP HATCHERY.—Will you please give the address of the carp hatchery of Illinois? When is the best time to send?—JOHN H. RAMSAY, Hunter, Ill. [We have not the name of the place, if there is one. A letter addressed to either one of the commissioners named will no doubt receive attention: S. P. Bartlett, Quincy, or S. P. McDole, Aurora. They are as a rule sent out in the spring or fall, we believe.—ED.]

Answers to Inquiries.

HUNGARIAN GRASS.—Replying to H. N. Squier, Morganville, Mon., I would say: Here in central Kansas we sow Hungarian grass as early as possible, without sandbearing it by late March. It starts very slowly, but when fairly rooted grows with astonishing rapidity, often yielding four to five tons per acre, and maturing in about 60 days. Formerly it was the custom to sow from twelve to sixteen quarts of seed to the acre; but of late it is thought better to sow a bushel, as the grass is much finer and makes better hay. It is seldom, or never fed to horses. If at all, sparingly, as it is almost sure to injure them. The writer has known personally of several horses that have lost the use of their legs from eating Hungarian hay, though they recovered in a few days when fed on other hay. It is, however, an excellent food for cattle, and some men claim that it will not injure a horse if cut while in bloom.—A. B. WHITNEY, Milford, Kansas.

LICE ON CATTLE.—To kill lice on cattle evenly and quickly, take fine, dry sand, about a quart for one creature, and sprinkle it along each side of the creature, beginning at the horns. Repeat this operation in about three days. Three or four such applications will make your cattle as clean as a whistle.—NEW SUBSCRIBER, West Fitchburg, Mass.

SWELLING ON HOCK JOINT.—To H. Akers: If the swelling on the hock joints of yearling colts is not a puff ball or wind gall, bathe twice a day with alum water.—D. L. MARKS, Reynolds, Neb.

That Incubator.

To Whom it May Concern.

I have been informed that the publishers of the *Rural Era* are sending out copies of this paper so marked as to call the attention of the reader to Fannie Field's indorsement of a certain incubator therein mentioned, and as one of the readers who should be misled by that "indorsement," I will here say that I never knew of but one incubator of that make that even made anything like what I could conscientiously call a good hatch. The owner of that machine obtained 139 chicks from 142 eggs, and it was a good hatch, and I said so, but I certainly did not intend that mention of that one successful hatch should be used as a recommendation of the "Common Sense." Instead of recommending, I warned her against it, and took as a gift an incubator of that make. The publisher of the *Era* forgot to mention that the owner of the incubator which I mentioned spent some $40 in money, to say nothing of spoiled eggs, lost time, etc., before she obtained the "good hatch" referred to. In all, she probably spent enough on the cheap (?) incubator to have bought a reliable, self-regulating machine.—FANNY FIELD.

Winter on the Farm—How I Employ my Time.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

Winter on the farm is, or ought to be, a pleasant season; and to myself it always was. Some farmer, can see only dreariness and clouds in it.

There is a comparative rest from active farm operations, because there are no crops growing to need constant attention, but for all that no farmer need to idle all winter. There are many things that can be done to good advantage at this season. The stock is all at the barn, consequently the chores consume a good deal of our time. Then there are always improvements to be made on every farm; and many of them can be carried on in the winter time. For myself, I have an addition to my house under way for this winter's work; then there is fuel to get from the woods for home use, wood and bark to haul to market, logs to cut and get to the mill, besides manure to haul, so there is not likely to be much idleness for me you can see.

Evenings are a pleasant feature of farm life, and they are enjoyed by us in reading, writing, and other ways. Quite often one member of the family reads aloud, while others are doing some sort of fancy work or necessary sewing, or other domestic work; and, as a change, I occupy some portion of nearly every evening in writing, either to private correspondents or to the columns of some of our weekly papers, of which we take quite a number. This is a privilege of which farmers should avail themselves more than they do.

I have found scroll sawing a very pleasant pastime for winter evenings and stormy days. Although there is considerable hard work to be done, on the farm, it may be so conducted as to be a delightful occupation to one who loves country life.

A shop should be found on every well regulated farm, where may be found an assortment of tools for doing odd jobs of carpentry work and repairing the different implements. When it is mild weather, there is no better time for covering the house and other buildings with paint, and besides the farmer can do it himself, as there is no farm work particularly pressing just now, and as the paint dries more slowly than in summer, it will be more durable; and, besides, there is no dust or dirt to blow on to the paint and stick.—F. H. D., Steuben county, N. Y.

Orange Apples.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

In the BLADE of December 24, I notice an inquiry by Mr. George Foster as to the best way to get the seed out of the osage orange or hedge apple, as it is sometimes called. Getting the seed out of this fruit is a pretty difficult operation. It seems as if it was put there to stay. I have had some experience in raising hedge plants from Southern, and also from home grown seed. A quarter of a century ago the raising of hedge plants was about the most profitable branch of the nursery business. But when we had our little "difficulty" with our "Southern brethren," our supply of seed was cut off. Our Southern brethren didn't raise any. They hadn't time. They were too busy raising h—l to pay much attention to anything else. It was during this unpleasant state of affairs that the farmers in this section first attempted to raise plants from home seed. One of my neighbors bought a quarter section of new land at that time, and there being no plants in the country, and no seed to be had, he conceived the idea of raising plants from the oranges, and although it is not the custom of the country to allow the fences to run up to seed, by the insertion of a little "ad" in a country paper he succeeded in securing a number of bushels of oranges at 50 cents per bushel, and borrowed a neighbor's cellar to store them in through the winter. In the spring, at planting time, he attempted to get the seed out by mashing and washing them out, as directed by the editor of the BLADE, but finding the process too tedious he planted pumice and all without further attempt to separate the seed. He made an immense success of his venture, raising all the plants he wanted for his own use, and selling to his neighbors at the fabulous price of $10 per thousand. Sixty thousand were sold to a nursery firm in Davenport, Iowa. People (especially the Democrats) thought the war would never end, and that hedge plants would never be cheaper. But the next season every boy in the neighborhood had his patch of hedge plants, raised from oranges gathered near home. The home grown seed is, I think, the best, as I have never known it to fail to grow, which is more than can be said of the Texas seed, as much of the latter is spoiled in drying. My first attempt at raising plants was with one pound of seed, costing $1. I didn't get a plant. Next year I planted ten pounds, and raised over fifty thousand plants, worth $3.50 per thousand, and later, I planted one bushel, but the seed was so bad that the crop would but little more than pay the cost of the seed. Plants can be raised from home grown seed for $1 per thousand, and money made at it, as the seed costs but little, if anything, and there is but little danger of a failure of the crop.—ALLAN WOODWARD, Osco, Henry county, Ills.

Hollow Horn.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

As a reader of the BLADE I see something in about every number concerning "hollow horn" in cattle. I was a resident of Iowa about fourteen years and had considerable to do with cattle. I had to contend with hollow horn, hooks, black leg and dry murrain. My treatment for dry murrain is: Take one pint of rye meal or chopped rye, add water until it is thin enough to drench the animal. This given once is sufficient. For black leg, cut off the end of the hoofs from the affected leg until it bleeds freely. Then apply salt, as one. This will save the animal. For hooks, I cut a piece out of the back and middle cords of each ear by turning the ear inside out. It is easily done. Now I believe there is a disease we quacks call the hollow horn. What the cause is, I do not know, but I know the effect is the want of the circulation of the blood in the pith of the horn, and anything that will start the circulation will cure the animal. My remedy is half a teacupful of vinegar and half that amount of fine ground black pepper, heat it blood-warm and pour half into each ear. The tail is generally hollow or lacks bone there. Cut off the tail until the blood flows freely. Cutting the tail may answer every purpose, but I never tried that alone.—RILEY BRATTON, Rutledge, Wasco county, Oregon.

Cure for Garget.

To the Editor of the Blade Farm:

One-half tea cup of polk root cut up fine and mixed with the feed every other morning until three doses are given, then one dose every third morning. If the cow has a sucking calf, let the calf suck the diseased teat morning, noon and night. Separate calf from cow as soon as milk is taken. If no calf, milk as clean as possible three times a day. After preparing the polk root, keep your fingers away from your eyes until thoroughly washed. This will beat the editor's cure all hollow, I believe.—A READER.

M. PASTEUR'S PLAN.

New York and St. Louis Making Extensive Arrangements to Give It a Trial.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—The first steps looking towards the introduction into this country of the famous method of treating hydrophobic patients, discovered by Louis Pasteur, were taken yesterday. The papers necessary for the legal incorporation of the American institute of hydrophobia, were sent to Albany, and no time will be lost in bringing the organization to a condition of practical usefulness. The list of officers includes several names of men of recognized worth and talent. The superintendent said to a correspondent yesterday: "In the treatment of sufferers we shall follow the Pasteur system, because it is not only the best that has been discovered, but also because it is the only one. We will be quite ready to begin our labors Monday."

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 31.—All arrangements have been perfected in this city for the treatment of hydrophobia, after the methods followed by M. Pasteur. In three weeks, at the outside, patients may be treated. The movement is one of more than ordinary interest, and all engaged in it are making the most thorough preparations for the experiments. A barn and yard have been secured, where dogs suspected of rabies will be kept and closely watched.

Several dogs, which showed slight symptoms of hydrophobia, have been tied up, and yesterday afternoon one of the canines gave almost unmistakable evidence of the disease, but the developments will be waited. If the dog proves really mad, its skull will be trephined, and a portion of the brain removed. This will be injected into the brain of the second dog, and the rabbits will be used, after the operation on the first dog. It will be sixteen days before virus can be secured with which human beings may be inoculated. Then the virus form will be in full operation, and any number of patients may be treated.

It May Be a Chestnut, but Its a Good One.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 30. The other evening as a man was strolling along Monmouth street, Newport, he met a woman clad in a thin shawl and a calico wrapper, with a baby in her arms. The wind was piercingly cold, and the woman was crying bitterly.

"What's the matter, madam?" said the stroller.

"I am homeless—have been turned out of doors because I can't pay my rent, and have no place to go with my little baby."

"Who was your landlord?"

"Mr. Williamson—there he stands," pointing to a crouching figure that stood in the shade.

"Did you turn this woman and child out in the cold a night like this?"

"Yes, sir; she wouldn't pay her rent, and I can't own houses for nothing."

"Well, said the newcomer, putting his hand down into his pocket, 'come here, madams; I'll just shout pay that rent myself. Here is a $100 bill; give me the change and make out a receipt."

Like the drowning man catching at a straw, Williamson grabbed the bill and handed back $80 in change. Then he entered his residence and the receipt was prepared. It took several days before Williamson discovered that the bill was counterfeit.

Labor Troubles and Outrage in Colorado.

DENVER, Dec. 30.—At 3 a.m. three masked men entered the engine room of the Marshall Coal company's works, near the town of Erie, 40 miles from Denver, and captured the engineer, took him several hundred yards away, tied him, then returned and set fire to the hoisting works. The engine house, tramway and several cars were destroyed, throwing several hundred men out of employment. Three weeks ago the wages in these mines were cut down, when the Knights of Labor ordered a strike. The miners, rather than be without work at this time of year, refused to obey. They continued work, and this morning's outrage is supposed to be another outcropping of the Rock Spring trouble, instigated by the Knights of Labor.

Illegal Fencing of Public Lands.

OMAHA, NEB., Dec. 31.—United States District Attorney Lambertson has received instructions from the Attorney General, upon the recommendation of the Secretary of the interior, to commence civil and criminal proceedings against some eight or ten persons for illegal fencing of public lands. The plats in his hands show about 80,000 acres inclosed. Other cases are expected soon. The largest inclosure referred to in his instructions embraces more that 36,000 acres. In some of the cases civil proceedings were commenced some time ago.

OUR HIGHEST TRIBUNAL.

United States Supreme Court—Its Personnel, Manner of Doing Business, and the Great Increase of Cases Before It.

One of the branches of the United States government which has not extended its proportions to keep pace with the growth of the country is the Supreme court. The average number of new cases coming before this court has increased from 70 per year in the years from 1850 to 1855 to 428 per year in the years from 1880 to 1885. There are now upwards of 1,300 cases on the calendar awaiting a hearing, and as only about 350 cases can be disposed of annually, it will be seen that the court is four years behind its work, and, as *Puck* lately remarked, unless something is shortly done to relieve this condition of things it will soon come to pass that judgments awarded by the courts will be paid to the grandchildren of the men bringing suit.

For this state of things Congress is to blame, and the subject is pertinent at this time because renewed efforts are about to be made to secure the passage of some measure of relief. The remedy, of course, is to increase the number of judges. It is not idle talk to assert that the present justices are overworked—that they are among the few public officials who really earn their salaries, and a great deal more accordingly as legal ability and labor is usually compensated. The 350 cases disposed of yearly is more than one for each working day, from which it will be seen that no busier men than these can be found within the realm of the legal profession, and few outside of that profession are aware of the labor entailed, even in some of the ordinary cases, in which there have been conflicting opinions, and in which the law is required to be settled once for all.

The Supreme court as now constituted consists of a Chief Justice, with a salary of $10,500 per year, and eight associate justices, with salaries of $10,000. The justices are appointed by the President, to hold office for life, or "during good behavior." The officers of the court include a clerk and deputy clerk, a marshal and a reporter. When the court is in session the justices sit in a row, as shown in the illustration below, the chief justice in the middle. Morrison R. Waite, of Ohio, the present chief justice, is now within half a year of his three-score-and-ten. He was appointed by Pres. Grant in 1874, and has, therefore, served eleven years.

At the right of the chief justice sits the senior associate justice, Samuel F. Miller, of Iowa, who is said to be the cleverest headed man of the nine. He was appointed by Pres. Lincoln, in 1862, after several years service on the circuit bench in Iowa, where he established a reputation as a good lawyer and upright judge that became national long before Mr. Lincoln became President. Many stories are told of the way Judge Miller's nomination was first suggested to Mr. Lincoln, but the fact that Mr. Lincoln knew him and of his qualifications for the place disposes of them all.

At the left of the chief justice, and next in seniority of appointment, sits Stephen J. Field, of California, who was also appointed by Mr. Lincoln in 1863, upon the demand of the Pacific coast that it should have a representative upon the Supreme bench. With this consideration, there was the other, that growing out of the peculiar land system of California, there had accumulated a vast amount of litigation, some of which had found its way to the Supreme court, and no man was more familiar with the legal questions involved than Judge Field. He is of the singed-cat order of men, and though quite old enough to go into retirement, will take his own time in getting about it.

Joseph P. Bradley sits next to Judge Miller at the right, and he, too, has passed the seventieth mile-post. He was appointed by Pres. Grant in 1870, and hailed from New Jersey. That appointment is too recent to remind the reader that it was charged that it was made to reverse the decision of the same court that in 1870 had declared the legal tender act unconstitutional. The safety of the nation may possibly have been involved in this decision; anyhow that was the prevailing view of the matter at that time.

At the left again, and next to Justice Field, is John M. Harlan, of Kentucky, who is a true type of the blue-grass product. He was appointed in 1875 by Mr. Hayes, upon the earnest solicitation of Judge Key and other southern gentlemen of the bench and bar. Justice Harlan's opinions are written and delivered in a very terse and direct style, but cannot be commended for extreme beauty of diction, any more than can those of William B. Woods, of Georgia, who is also an appointee of Mr. Hayes. Justice Woods is in the prime, if not the vigor, of manhood, is a good lawyer as the world goes (down in Georgia) and socially one of the best fellows in the particular social circle to which he belongs in Washington. A decent regard for candor moves the writer to say that the legal fraternity generally does not recognize Justice Woods as the equal of any of his confrères on the bench.

Stanley Matthews, of Ohio, was first nominated to the Supreme bench by Pres. Hayes, but the Senate adjourned on the last day of Hayes's term, leaving the nomination unacted upon. Pres Garfield renewed it, however, and he was confirmed. Mr. Matthews is a lawyer of superior ability, having occupied a high position at the bar for several years previous to his appointment to the bench. Horace Gray, at one end of the line, and Samuel Blatchford at the other, are the two remaining justices. Both are appointees of Pres. Arthur, the first from Massachusetts, and the last from New York city. Justice Gray was taken from the Supreme court bench in Boston, where he had previously officiated for many years in the capacity of reporter. He therefore has all the law at his tongue's end, as it were, and it is doubtful whether any of his fellow justices can number so many authorities upon any given legal proposition, and cite so many decisions offhand in support of them. Justice Blatchford was the nominee upon the Federal bench in the city of New York, and naturally is master of maritime jurisprudence, to which branch he is specially assigned, and in which he finds his hands more than full.

An atmosphere of funereal solemnity pervades the chamber at all times, yet the dignity of this, the highest judicial tribunal in Christendom, is not so severe as has been charged, or as might be imagined. There was a great deal of formal ceremony in the court some years ago, most of it coming down from the English courts, but it has gradually disappeared, until there is now very little left. The early justices were treated with high respect, not unmingled with a certain degree of awe, and members of the bar seldom attempted to be familiar with them, either on or off the bench, unless they were in intimate social relations. It is related of Henry Clay, who was noted for suavity, that he stopped one day in his argument before the court, and advancing to the bench in a graceful manner, took a pinch of snuff from the box of a justice, saying: "I perceive that your honor sticks to the Scotch," and then resumed his speech. This excited comment at that time, and Justice Story said: "I do not believe there is a man in the United States who could have done that but Mr. Clay."

Lawyers were at one time expected to appear in court in full dress suits of black, with ruffled shirts, knee breeches, silk stockings and low shoes with silver buckles, but now the custom is to wear plain black frock suits. In the first part of the century the justices wore wigs. The black silk robes worn by the justices are nearly like those worn by clergymen of the Episcopal church. Before entering the court chamber these gowns are donned in the robing room with the aid of colored attendants.

At high noon of each day during the court term, which extends from October to June, the crier requests all persons in the chamber to rise, and then in stentorian voice announces: "The honorable the chief justice and the associate justices of the supreme court of the United States." Preceded by the marshal, the procession of judges enter the room, headed by the chief justice, the other judges following, according to seniority in service. Standing for an instant at their respective chairs they exchange salutations with the bar and take seats, the chief justice occupying his in advance of the rest. The crier then opens court with the usual "oyez! oyez! oyez!" and business proceeds much the same as in courts of final resort in the several States.

The first chief justice was John Jay, of New York, who served from 1789 to 1795, and following, in the order named, were John Rutledge, of South Carolina; Oliver Ellsworth, of Connecticut; John Marshall, of Virginia; Roger B. Taney, Salmon P. Chase, and the present incumbent Marshall served 34 years and Taney 28 years. The former has been called "the great chief justice," because of his eminent qualifications. He was a very peculiar man in his personal characteristics, and noted for his plain, if not shabby, style of dress. Like the ex-Vice Pres. Hamlin, he never wore an overcoat, even in the coldest weather. The official etiquette of Washington requires that the members of the Supreme court shall pay an official visit to the President on the day of opening the annual term of court and on New Year's day.

The court room of the Supreme court is the old Senate chamber, a part of the capitol building first erected. The room is semi-circular in form and of Grecian design. Outside the area occupied for the use of attorneys, are a few rows of seats cushioned in red velvet for the use of spectators, of which there are never very many except on occasions when some eminent law suit is to make an argument. The speeches before this court, however, are not of the popular sort. Lawyers address the court in a quiet conversational tone, citing the facts and the authorities.

The mannerisms and py rotechnics which are successful before a jury have no effect here. On Saturday during the term the Chief Justice parcels out to his associates the cases that have been submitted during the week, assigning to each the cases upon which he is best qualified to pass an opinion. The opinions when written are read and discussed before the full bench before being promulgated, and often there is one or more dissenting justices. All cases brought here must involve an amount in controversy exceeding $5,000.

Serious Times Expected Along the Rio Grande — Politicians and Outlaws.

ST. LOUIS, Dec 30.—The Laredo, Tex., correspondent of the *Globe Democrat* says: A sergeant of the United States army, stationed at Ringgold barracks, some 60 miles down the Rio Grande from this place, arrived here to-night, and reports that a general uprising is taking place in all the small Mexican towns along the river, between here and Brownsville. Maj. Kellogg, commanding the United States troops at the above mentioned post, and forces are now en route to Reins, a small city on the American side, where over 500 men, mostly from Mexico, are in arms and express their intention of taking the city of Mier. They have an abundance of ammunition, and are of the desperado and border ruffian class. Major Kellogg proposes to disperse them or force them to leave the American territory, in order to prevent a breach of the neutrality laws between the two republics. The movement originated among a few dissatisfied politicians who were defeated at the recent city elections in Mexico. Mexican troops are now being sent out from Monterey and Saltillo to reinforce those already stationed in the cities of the state of Tamaulipas, where the next outbreak is daily expected.

In Opposition to Pasteur.

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 30.—Veterinary Surgeon Runge has received from New York the body of a dog which was suffering from rabbies, also four cats which were bitten by the dog. He will endeavor to start a laboratory here. A rabbit was inoculated with the virus. This operation is said to be the first of the kind ever performed in this country.

New York Sub-Treasury

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—Treasurer Jordan, of the United States treasury at Washington, took charge of the sub-treasury in this city to-day. There was considerable delay in the opening of the vaults, and for this reason business was at a standstill for an hour or two.

Taking the Poetry Out of an Elopement.

KANSAS CITY, MO., Dec. 29.—Rose Sellzer and W. E. Gannon, of Chicago, were arrested at the Hotel Brunswick by Detective Hayes. They were registered as man and wife. This morning her father arrived, and when he confronted his wayward child a stormy scene took place. He swears that Gannon will go to the penitentiary or he will have his life. For awhile his daughter was obstinate, but when her charmer had been taken to a cell she broke into tears and said she would go home and sin no more. She and her father started home this evening, and an officer is expected for Gannon to-morrow. The girl spent last night in the detective's room at police headquarters and the boy was locked up below, which took considerable of the poetry out of the elopement.

Price and the Morey Letter.

PITTSBURG, Jan. 4.—W. M. Price, chairman of the Maryland Democratic state committee in 1880, has been admitted to practice at the Allegheny county bar. Mr. Price, it will be remembered, was charged with being the author of the famous Morey letter, which caused so much excitement during the last days of the Hancock-Garfield campaign. In admitting him to the bar, Judge Ewing stated that the charges had been carefully investigated by the examining committee of the bar, and had been shown to be utterly without foundation, and that the court had also been satisfied to the fullest extent that the gentleman had been slandered.

Blaine's Book.

NORWICH, CONN., Jan. 2.—Rumors have recently been circulated that Hon. James G. Blaine would not complete his second volume of "Twenty Years of Congress." It is authoritively learned that the work is practically complete, and will be issued the latter part of this month.

The total imports of dry goods at New York during the past week were valued at $3,516,281, and the amount thrown on the market at $998,998.

News of the Week.

THE DETROIT FIRE.

The Immense Seed House of Ferry & Co. and White's Theatre in Ruins.

DETROIT, Jan. 1.—Shortly after o'clock this morning smoke was observed coming from D. M. Ferry & Co.'s mammoth building on Brush, between Crogan and Lafayette streets. An alarm was quickly turned in, a second and third alarms followed in quick succession, there being promise of a big conflagration in the heart of the business part of the city. The fire department turned out in force, and soon surrounded the burning building with hose. The flames had started in the packing department and soon enveloped the whole building, which was but a mere shell, having but one solid wall inside the outer wall. Bravely and intelligently the firemen kept at their work, but all efforts seemed futile, the flames spreading rapidly until the whole district in which the burning building is situated seemed doomed.

At 10:30 White's theatre had been seized by the fire, and by 11 the firemen were compelled to turn their attention more to saving the buildings on the opposite side of Randolph street, although still keeping numerous streams of water playing on the burning building.

At 11 the men of No. 3 company raised a ladder in front of the theatre to get a better chance at the flames. Finding the rapidly advancing fire would prevent any effective work at that point, the men were descending the ladder and had about reached the ground when several feet of cornice fell on the ladder wagon. Capt. Richard Tilban was struck on the head by bricks and instantly killed, and fireman White was badly, but not fatally injured.

Soon after the flames spread to the Wesson block, on the corner of Randolph and Croghan streets, and that building was soon enveloped in flames.

To-night the flames are still raging fiercely, but have been confined within the walls of the buildings already mentioned. During the worst of the fire the wind had been from the south, and a single building on the corner of Lafayette and Randolph streets, was seriously injured, but all the rest of the square was a total loss. The burned district belonged to what is known as the Brush estate, having been the site of the old homestead.

D. M. Ferry & Co. built their mammoth establishment six years ago. White's theater was originally built to accommodate the Peninsular Saengerbund, a Michigan offshoot of the North American Saengerbund, and the company was organized in 1880, and this music hall was built at that time being opened with an annual feast August 30, 1880. D. M. Ferry & Co.'s building occupied half a square, being one of the largest in the city. Their seed business is probably the largest in the United States. In the building formerly occupied 400 people are usually employed, besides 400 more employed on their immense farms outside the city. It was providential that the fire occurred on a holiday, as otherwise the loss of life would have probably been very great.

As to the origin of the fire there are no well devised theories. Some of the employes hint at incendiarism, claiming that there were no fires in the heart of the building first attacked by the flames, and that some outside agency must have been responsible for the fire.

The total insurance on D. M. Ferry & Co.'s is $460,000. Charles O. White was insured for $30,000. Neighboring buildings were damaged, but figures and insurance could not be obtained.

DETROIT, Jan. 2.—Ferry & Co. will rebuild immediately. In the meantime they will occupy different places, in order that the large force in their employ shall not be idle. It is also thought that White's theater will be rebuilt, but the stockholders have not fully determined. As now figured up, the loss by the fire amounts to $1,397,000. The insurance on the Ferry property is $456,000, and the total insurance to be paid about $477,000.

A Suit Against Mrs. Stewart.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Architect Henry G. Harrison, of Connecticut, who declares that he is the designer of the Garden City cathedral, built by Mrs. Cornelia M. Stewart in memory of her husband, Alexander T. Stewart, is suing Mrs. Stewart for $36,772, which he says is owing to him for his work on the costly fane. His complaint was filed on Saturday. Mr. Horace Russell accepted the service of the complaint for Mrs. Stewart. Mr. Russell said to-day that he had not examined into the merits of the case, and was unable to say what defense would be set up by Mrs. Stewart. He was under the impression that Architect Harrison had been amply paid for his services. Lawyer Sewell said that Mr. Harrison had spent nearly half of his life building the cathedral, and that he had received only $17,825 for his work. He said, also, that Mr. Harrison had lived on the Stewart estate at Garden City while superintending the erection of the cathedral, and that Mrs. Steward had deducted from his pay the rent of the house he and his family occupied. Mr. Harrison's complaint sets forth that he rendered services as an architect between Jan. 1, 1875, and Jan. 1, 1885, drawing plans and designs and making estimates for, and superintending the erection of a church or cathedral, originally intended to be known as the A. T. Stewart Memorial church, at Garden City, L. I., but now called and known as the "Cathedral of the Incarnation." He puts the reasonable value of his service at $110,786, and says that he also expended for the defendant, at her request, $297. For all this he says he has received only $17,852.

That Scalping Story.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Jan. 4.—Liet. Howard, of falling giant fame, in connection with the late Indian fiasco in the Northwest, when asked to-day if it was true that he had scalped a dead foe, after the fight at Batouche, said to a reporter that it was not true. What he did do was to cut off as a trophy the scalp-lock of young White Cap, son of old White Cap, chief of a band of renegade Sioux, who years ago were driven out of Minnesota for being engaged in a massacre. Lieut. Howard says other officers also helped themselves to hairy souvenirs from the heads of dead Indians, but no scalping was done or acts of violence perpetrated.

Young White Cap was found with nine bullet holes in his body, all made by the Gatling gun worked by Lieut. Howard. The scalp lock referred to is now exhibited as a trophy in the room of the machine platoon of the state militia, of which Lieut. Howard has command, and which is located in the National guard.

The Lumber Business in Maine.

BANGOR, ME., Jan. 2.—The Penobscot river is closed to navigation now, and the interest of business men is transferred from the harbor of Bangor to the woods away toward the head waters, where the army of axe-swingers are now well at work chopping the logs that are to come down next spring. The past season has been successful for the lucky ones who had logs to sell, but not very profitable for those who sawed them into lumber, because logs brought a pretty good price, while manufactured lumber sold low. There are only 17,000,000 feet of logs left over on the river, out of a total stock of 150,000,000 for the year, which is the smallest reserve for fifteen years. The lumbermen feel confident of better times next season, and intend to cut about 150,000,000 feet, or 25 five per cent. more than last winter, which amount, with the reserve, will make a total stock of 167,000,000 feet for 1886. It is estimated that 2,500 men and 1,000 horses and oxen are now at work on Penobscot waters, and there is more than the usual force on the other rivers.

A Blood-Curdling Story from Washington Territory.

SEATTLE, Dec. 30.—A story is in circulation here to the following effect: An Italian boatman left Victoria one day last summer with seven chinamen for the American side of the Straits of Fuca. When almost across he saw the United States revenue steamer Oliver Wolcott coming toward him with the evident intention of examining his craft. He became alarmed, and to avoid the penalties attached to the offense of smuggling Chinamen into the United States resolved to make way with the evidence of his guilt. He called the Chinamen out of the cabin one at a time, and as they came out struck them on the head with a club and pitched them overboard. In this way he got rid of the whole number, and when boarded by a boat from the cutter no evidence whatever of a criminating nature was found. An investigation will be made with a view to ascertaining the truth or falsity of the story. A recently convicted smuggler, now in the United States penitentiary, is authority for the story.

Business Failures in 1885.

NEW YORK, Jan. 1.—R. G. Dun & Co. report the total number of business failures in the United States during 1885 as 10,968, with liabilities of a little more than $124,000,000, as compared with 10,968 in 1884, with liabilities of $226,000,000. The number of traders reported in business in 1885 was 919,990; of these one in every 86 failed. In 1878, with 674,000 traders, one in every 64 came to grief. The average amount of liabilities of each failure was: In 1885, $11,678, against $20,632 in 1884, and $22,369 in 1878. It is seen from these figures that while business casualties decrease but slightly, they are far less significant in amount and importance.

BULLS AND BEARS.

Troubles of the Chicago Board of Trade in Meeting Expenses—The Membership Falling Off.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—Prominence is given to the fact that the Chicago board of trade memberships are rapidly decreasing in value. The cause is ascribed to the heavy expenses incurred by moving into the new board of trade building. The new building, including the site, cost between $1,900,000 and $2,000,000. In order to provide funds for building, the board issued bonds to the amount of $1,500,000, bearing 5 per cent. interest. Confidence in the new enterprise was such at that time that no trouble was found in disposing of the bonds at par, or at a slight premium. The amount realized from the bonds, together with the $300,000 in cash and $625,000 in Chamber of Commerce bonds, was not quite sufficient to defray the entire expenses. The remainder has been paid out of the rents first taken from the offices in the new building. The bonds are what are known as 10 50's—that is they may be paid after ten years and must be paid in 50 years. The interest, which amounts to $75,000 a year, is payable semi-annually. Six months interest, or $37,500, is payable to-morrow.

The expenses of the board may be represented as follow: Interest on bonds, $75,000; rent on old quarters, $30,000; taxes, $20,000; insurance, $9,000; coal, $10,000; pay roll, etc., $50,000; total, $194,000. The board has its old quarters to pay for during the next 97 years at $30,000 a year. The board receives $14,000 a year from rents now. Unless there should be a change for the better in the board's affairs the receipts, it is claimed, will be less than $100,000 in two years from May 1, when present leases expire. A number of leases expire next May, and can be renewed only at figures at least 20 per cent lower. The receipts, therefore, next year are almost sure to be less than they are the year. From the dues of members which have been $50 a year, a considerable income has been derived, the memberships now numbering 1,933. It was apparent, however, that the income was far from sufficient for the board's needs, and in consequence the directors at the last meeting increased the dues to $75. A great many, knowing the condition of the board's financial affairs, expected them to be raised to $100. Dissatisfaction was expressed, and the price of memberships, which a few months ago was $4,500, dropped to $1,500, but sales of yesterday realized $2,125. It is claimed that no means have been taken so far toward providing a sinking fund, which will have to be $25,000 annually, to meet the payment of the bonds when they fall due.

A Bitter School Fight in Illinois.

CHATHAM, Ill., Dec. 29.—For a week the citizens of Auburn, Ill., and vicinity have been greatly interested as to the result of a school trial at that place. It appears that people are usually employed, besides 400 more employed on their immense farms outside the city. It was providential that the fire occurred on a holiday, as otherwise the loss of life would have probably been very great.

As to the origin of the fire there are no well devised theories. Some of the employes hint at incendiarism, claiming that there were no fires in the heart of the building first attacked by the flames, and that some outside agency must have been responsible for the fire.

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ping from records of applicants whose names have been thereon for six months or more without having been reached. This rule will not exclude persons whose names are dropped from the records from another examination. The only difference will be that they will have to pass through a new examination just as those who have never applied.

Debt Statement.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—Following is a recapitulation of the debt statement issued to-day for the month of December:

Interest bearing debt—	
Bonds at 4½ per cent.	$ 250,000,000 00
Bonds at 4 per cent.	737,743,250 00
Bonds at 3 per cent.	194,190,500 00
Refunding certificates at 4 per cent.	227,400 00
Navy pension fund at 3 per cent	14,000,000 00
Pacific railroad bonds at 6 per cent	64,623,512 00
Principal	1,260,778,662 00
Interest	13,248,330 00
Total	$1,274,027,001 00
Debt on which interest has ceased since maturity—	
Principal	3,447,473 00
Interest	202,213 00
Total	$3,649,688 00
Debt bearing no interest—	
Old demand and legal tender notes	$46,738,806 00
Certificates of deposit	135,720,000 00
Gold certificates	103,,000 00
Silver certificates	83,179,165 00
Fractional currency, less $5,225,— 284 estimated as lost or destroyed	6,990,183 00
Principal	566,627,025 00
Total debt, principal	$1,841,253,163 00
Interest	13,450,552 00
Total	$1,849,713,715 00
Less cash items available for reduction of the debt	220,240,016 00
Less reserve held for redemption of U. S. notes	100,000,000 00
Total	$329,240,016 00
Total debt, less available cash items	$1,514,473,698 00
Net cash in the treasury	71,618,872 00
Debt less cash in the treasury January 1, 1886	1,443,454,826 00
Debt less cash in the treasury December 1, 1885	1,432,514,766 00
Decrease of debt during the month	9,939,940 00
Cash in the treasury available for reduction of the debt—	
Gold held for gold certificates actually outstanding	105,329,601 00
Silver held for silver certificates actually outstanding	83,179,165 00
U. S. notes held for certificates of deposits actually outstanding	13,700,000 00
Cash held for matured debt and interest unpaid	16,908,038 00
Fractional currency	2,922 00
Total available for reduction of the debt	$329,240,016 00
Reserve fund held for redemption of U. S. notes, acts of January 14, 1875, and July 12, 1882	100,000,000 00
Unavailable for reduction of the debt—	
Fractional silver coin	27,196,430 00
Minor coin	526,541 00
Total	27,722,971 00
Certificates held for redemption	65,779,700 00
Net cash balance on hand	71,018,872 00
Total cash in the treasury as shown by treasurer's general account	$494,961,994 52

The Ohio Man Wins.

Owen Kellar, of Ohio, having served a satisfactory probationary term of six months, has been permanently appointed a clerk of class one in the first auditor's office, under the civil service rules. Mr. Kellar is the gentleman whose temporary appointment led to the controversy with Auditor Chenoweth, six months ago, when the auditor objected to the appointment because of Kellar's political record.

Congress in Session Again.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 5.—Contrary to general expectation, the House committees were not announced. After the reading of the journal, the speaker immediately proceeded to call the states for the introduction of bills and resolutions.

Precisely at noon the senate was called to order by Sen. Sherman, the president protem, who, after prayer and the reading of the journal, laid before the senate the credentials of John W. Daniel, the newly elected United States senator from Virginia, which were read and laid on the table; also a communication from Gen. W. B. Franklin, president of the National Home for disabled volunteer soldiers, notifying the Senate of the death of Gen. George B. McClellan, to fill the vacancy in the board of trustees filled. The communication was referred to the committee on Military Affairs.

The Committees.

Speaker Carlisle said at 3 o'clock this afternoon that the committees would not be announced to-day. It is understood that the list is not fully made up, and that it may be subject to change until the last moment. There seems to be no doubt that it will be ready for announcement to-morrow.

Sen. Beck as the Champion of Silver.

During the holiday recess of Congress and since the delivery of his speech in favor of silver coinage, Sen. Beck has received more letters than any other member of the senate. In fact, letters have come to him by the hundreds daily, all of them commending the position he has taken, and urging him to stand firm in the interest of the silver dollar. Among the tributes of commendation that reached Sen. Beck by mail during the holidays was one from the youngest daughter of Mr. Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi. It is a neat little water color painting, representing the silvery moon looking down through a sheen of silvery clouds upon a prosperous landscape. Underneath was written in Miss Davis' hand, "Diana's tribute to the champion of silver."

Civil Service.

Mr. Cutcheon (Mich.) has introduced a bill in the House to reform the civil service and preserve the constitutional distinctions between legislative and executive duties, by the organization of a bureau of civil appointments.

California's Claims.

The state of California has filed with Sec. Lamar complaints against the commissioner of the general land office for not preparing patents for lands granted the state of California by Congress and subsequently confirmed to her in special act, and approved to her by Sec. Lamar in 1885, which Land Commissioner Sparks has recently decided may be still further contested by any one desiring to claim them under other laws.

Dakota.

Hon. A. Boynton, a member of the Democratic Territorial committee of Dakota, has written a letter to Gen. Harrison, chairman of the committee on Territories, protesting against the action of the last legislature of Dakota in appropriating the territorial revenues assessed upon all the counties in that territory for the use in case of a convention composed of delegates from only a portion of the counties, and against the action of a convention held at Sioux Falls, in the southwestern part of the territory, and the assumption of power of a so-called legislature recently convened at Huron.

Notes.

The treasury department this week purchased 200,000 ounces of silver.

Pres. Cleveland has contributed $100 to the Grant monument fund. Accompanying the contribution is the hope that the association will succeed in its object.

Sec. Manning holds that the sinking fund for the current fiscal year requires $18,000,000. He said that it would not do to call that amount all at once, and hence he had made it to begin with a call of $10,000,000 only. This would indicate that between February 1 and January 30 there will be four bond calls of $10,000,000 each.

Mr. H. W. Cannon, comptroller of the currency, has absented himself from his office to attend to some private business, and Mr. V. P. Snyder, recently appointed deputy comptroller, is acting in his stead. The impression is growing that Mr. Cannon will shortly relinquish his office in order to accept a position in a New York bank. The rumor that Mr. Snyder will succeed him is not credited.

The Cherokees Didn't Understand It

LITTLE ROCK, Jan. 5.—From an Indian Territory special, it is learned that prominent Cherokees are taking steps to have the lease of what is known as the Cherokee outlet, made in July, 1883, to a cattle syndicate, set aside, on the ground of fraud and lack of just compensation. The lease covers all unoccupied lands belonging to the Cherokee nation lying west of the Arkansas river. It was executed by Chief Bushyhead, in accordance with an act passed by the Cherokee council, and was for a term of five years, the consideration being $100,000 per year. The money is to be distributed among the Cherokees per capita. The land covered by the lease amounts to nearly 6,000,000 acres. The lessees comprise nine leading western cattlemen. It is stated that the bill authorizing the lease was rushed through the council without the Cherokees generally understanding it, and that its passage was secured through fraud and misrepresentation.

December Fire Loss.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—The *Daily Commercial Bulletin*, estimates the fire loss in the United States and Canada in December at $9,300,000, and the aggregate loss in 1885 $94,300,000, or $15,000,000 less than in 1884. The last six months of the year have shown a much lighter loss than the first six months, thereby enabling insurance companies to come out even.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

The Balkan War.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—It is said that when the Servian troops evacuated the Widdin district they devastated the country and looted the cattle and corn belonging to the Bulgarian farmers.

PHILIPPAPOLIS, Jan. 2.—An agreement has been arrived at between Madjid Pasha, the special envoy of Turkey, and Prince Alexander, respecting the union of Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia. It has received the concurrence of the powers.

BELGRADE, Jan. 5.—King Milan arrived here to-day, and met with an enthusiastic reception. The municipal authorities presented an address to the king, assuring him of their loyalty.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—The Greek government has sent a vigorous note to the powers protesting against the union of Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia. The note says that Greece feels keenly the loss of thousands of Greek inhabitants involved by the union, and demands the restoration of the boundary fixed by the Berlin congress, adding that Greece continues her naval and military preparations, in order to be ready to assert her rights if it should become necessary for her to do so.

The Balkan conference at Constantinople has been abandoned, Russia refusing to guarantee the independence of union of Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia.

Egypt.

CAIRO, Dec. 30.—A dispatch from Koseh says: Lieut. Gen. Stephenson, commander of the British forces in Egypt, who recently arrived here with large reinforcements, attacked the rebels who had been menacing the garrison for several weeks. A three-hours' fight ensued, resulting in the British troops capturing Ginis, a village near Koseh. The rebels were completely routed. The cavalry is pursuing the enemy. Two guns and twenty bannes were captured. The English lost one officer killed and 21 men wounded. The Egyptian allies of the British lost six killed and thirteen wounded.

LONDON, Jan. 4.—Advices from Cairo say that the Arabs lost 600 men in the battle with the British forces which was fought near Kosieh recently. The Arabs are reported to be flying in the direction of Dongola.

Spain.

MADRID, Dec. 30.—Queen Christina was sworn as regent before the Cortes to-day. The populace was very cordial in the reception of her majesty. Members of the Cortes cheered as the widowed queen entered the chamber, and several ladies in her majesty's suite began to weep.

MADRID, Jan. 7.—A band of republican revolutionists made an attempt to-day to destroy a railroad bridge in the Sierra Morena mountains. Five members of the band have been arrested. It is reported that several persons have been arrested and imprisoned at Ciudad on suspicion of being implicated in a revolutionary conspiracy.

Great Britain.

THE IRISH QUESTION.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—Michael Davitt, in an interview, said: "If home rule is granted to Ireland, it is difficult for me to see how the Irish members can continue to sit in the Parliament at Westminster, unless the colonies are are similarly represented in that body. The appointment of a prince of the royal family as viceroy of Ireland would be a mistake, as Ireland requires a statesman of tact and brains to administer the government, not a royal nonentity."

LONDON, Jan. 2.—The *Pall Mall Gazette* this afternoon says that it is able to announce that Mr. Gladstone is ready to entertain a feasible proposal from the Marquis of Salisbury to jointly concert for a settlement of the home rule question. The *Gazette* urges a coalition of the Liberals and Conservatives to deal with the subject of home rule.

DUBLIN, Jan. 5.—The *Daily Express*, the organ of the loyalists of Ireland, says: "British rule has virtually ceased to exist in the southwestern district of Ireland. From west Cork, through the counties of Kerry and Clare, the National league is the only government recognized by the people, and it is ruling them with a rod of iron and incredible severity. The disclosure of the victims' names would jeopardize their lives."

OPPOSED TO THE TUNNEL.

LONDON, Jan. 1.—The government has intimated its intention of opposing the revival of the bill providing for the construction of a tunnel under the English channel between England and France.

ANNEXING BURMAH.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—Queen Victoria yesterday issued a proclamation announcing the annexation of independent Burmah to the possessions of the British Crown. This vast territory extends from the southern boundary of India, and will furnish a new field of profit for English tradesman and officials.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—A dispatch from Rangoon says the present condition of affairs in Burmah is very bad, and the outlook for England's success in governing her new conquest is anything but favorable. In Upper Burmah nine of 11 districts are pillaging small towns and committing numerous atrocities, while British forces are inadequate to suppress the disorder. Reinforcements are to be sent to the interior immediately.

FOR IRELAND.

LONDON, Jan. 5.—The local government measure to be laid before parliament by the government, as drafted, gives to Ireland the same privileges for electing county boards and for electing a central council. The proposition that the crown should have the right to nominate a part of the council was abandoned. The measure also provides that the county boards shall have control of the traffic in liquor, and that the central council shall have a voice in appointing magistracy.

Mr. John Ruskin, writing on the Irish question, suggests that the government consider the virtues of the Irish people before arranging a scheme for managing them. He says the Irish people are witty and affectionate, and the witless and heartless cannot govern them.

France.

PASTEUR KEPT BUSY.

PARIS, Dec. 29.—M. Pasteur to-day inoculated Charles Kaufman, of Franklin, N. J., who was bitten by a supposed mad dog on November 24. The operation was successful. M. Pasteur severely censured Kaufman for his inattention to his injuries at the time he was bitten, but said he hoped to prevent any development of hydrophobia. M. Pasteur will inoculate Dr. Ludwig R. Sattler, of Orange, N. J., the veterinary surgeon, who was bitten on December 13, once a day for eight consecutive days.

The four children—Austin Fitzgerald, Patsy Ryan, Willie Lane and Patrick Reynolds—who have been under treatment by M. Pasteur, will leave for home on Sunday next. They are all well.

PARIS, Jan. 4.—The four children from Newark, N. J., who were bitten by a mad dog and who have been under the treatment of M. Pasteur, sailed from Havre for New York Sunday. They are all well.

FRENCH POLITICS.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—Pres. Grevy accepted the resignation of M. Brisson, the premier, last evening, and this morning summoned M. de Freycinet, the minister of foreign affairs, to form a new cabinet. M. de Freycinet, however, was reluctant to accept such a responsibility at the present moment, in view of the gravity of the political situation in France. He has asked the President to grant him time to consider the proposal and to consult with his friend and the Republican leaders.

A CANAL SCHEME.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—The *Times* to-day says that the scheme to connect Marseilles with the Rhone by a canal, which was abandoned in 1881, has been revived.

Germany.

BERLIN, Jan. 4.—The prospect of a marriage of Prince Alexander of Bulgaria with the daughter of the Crown Prince Frederick William, has been revived. Prince Bismarck, who formerly refused to sanction the marriage, has, since the Bulgarian victories and the re-establishment of an *entente* with Prince Alexander, withdrawn his opposition.

ROME, Jan. 4.—An autograph letter from the pope accompanied the decoration of the order of Christ conferred last week upon Prince Bismarck by his holiness. The decoration was richly set with brilliants.

EMPEROR WILLIAM.

BERLIN, Jan. 2.—The jubilee of the Emperor William's accession to the throne of Prussia will be celebrated to-morrow, as requested by the Emperor, instead of to-day, without a procession or demonstration of any kind. There will be solemn thanksgiving services during the morning throughout the capital at which the members of the Royal family will be present. The religious exercises will be followed by a levee. All the German princes intended to personally hail Emperor William on the occasion, but his majesty declined such an ovation. The emperor informed the princes that instead of receiving them personally, he would be pleased to receive autograph letters from each. His majesty also declined to receive any presents or deputations. The municipal governors will send addresses to the emperor. The advent of Lord Wolsley as the representative of Queen Victoria at the jubilee celebration, causes considerable gratification to the residents of Berlin.

BERLIN, Jan. 5.—Emperor William has issued a rescript respecting the 25th anniversary of his accession to the Prussian throne. In it he says: "What touches me most is the unshaken confidence of my people in me and their faithful and unalterable affection." His majesty returns thanks for the very numerous expressions of attachment and veneration for him, not only from all parts of Germany, but from places far beyond the German frontiers, wherever the German language is spoken.

Bavaria.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—The *Standard* publishes a dispatch from Munich, in which it is stated that the creditors of the insane King Ludwig the second, of Bavaria, are petitioning for power to see to the king's personal effects. Prince Leopold, commander-in-chief of the Bavarian army, has in the meantime issued an order forbidding bailiffs or other civil officers in the employ of outside creditors from entering Bavaria.

Italy.

ROME, Jan. 1.—The Pope has converted personal presents of many years into money, and has donated the proceeds (£20,000) to the college of the Propaganda.

The Congo Country.

BRUSSELS, Jan. 1.—King Leopold to-day received Lieut. Taunt, United States navy, who has been exploring the Congo region. Lieut. Taunt describes the region of Lower Congo as arid, unhealthy and unproductive, but above Stanley pool the climate is fine and resources bountiful. He will also report to the government at Washington, adding that the country is now unworkable; that whites cannot colonize; that natives will not work, and coolie labor is necessary.

China.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—The *Times* this morning prints the following: About the middle of next month the Chinese national competition for the military degree of the empire, is to take place in Pekin. This is held in the imperial presence once in every five years. The successful competitor is crowned by the emperor and worshiped as a hero by the military fraternity of the entire nation. To attain such honors, wealthy families are more than willing to give up their entire fortune. Triumphal arches are built for the winner by the government, and the people of his own province devote seven days in festivities in his honor. His wife receives the rank of the "first lady of the empire," and the empress allows her the sum of 3,000 taels per annum as "paint and powder" money. There is at present only one Chinaman in America who is entitled to enter this contest. He is a Kiu Yin, and is the chairman of the Chinese Municipal society, at No. 292 Chatham street. His name is Li Hong Gwing. He is 38 years old, about six feet in height, weighs about 200 pounds, and is considered the best looking Chinaman in New York.

"I am afraid I shall not enter the Pekin contest," he said last night, "although it was my intention to do so about a year ago. I came here simply to see the sights of New York, but things so pleased me here that I have tarried long enough to get into a political office. Besides, it is now too late for preparation. I should have to exercise in drawing the bow, lifting great weights, and shooting on horseback at marks at 200 feet. We employ the bow simply as a test book of our military education, for we believe that a man shoots an arrow straight he can also shoot a gun straight. I should have to be able to show a graceful and easy use of the great swords, which weigh from 150 to 200 pounds, according to the degrees we contend for. At Pekin we will have to toy with a 200 pounder, first with two hands, and then only one hand. The handle must be almost as common sword. I still have some strength," and Mr. Li jokingly picked up the reporter with one hand and danced him in the air until cut short by an incoherent and pleading protest.

Canada.

WRECKING LAWS OF CANADA.

MONTREAL, Dec. 30.—It is understood that the Lake Carriers' association of Ontario have consulted eminent counsel in regard to the present state of the wrecking laws, and that the association will endeavor to procure legislation to bring the Dominion laws into harmony with those of the United States. The changes introduced into the management of the Grand Trunk railroad have obliterated the Great Western as a separate division. The line west of Toronto has been divided into two divisions, to be known as the Northern and Southern divisions. Railway men express the opinion that the changes will result in much practical amalgamation of the two old rival systems and tend to more harmonious working.

THE WOMEN VOTED.

TORONTO, Ont., Jan. 5.—The following mayors were elected yesterday: Toronto, W. H. Howland; Guelph, William Stevenson; St. Thomas, J. E. Smith; Hamilton, Alderman McKay; Brantford, C. B. Heyd; Kingston, Mr. Whiting; Belleville, Mr. McIninch; London, Thomas D. Hodgins. Women voted here yesterday for the first time. They took great interest in the election, and polled a large vote. They were almost a unit in favor of Howland, the temperance candidate.

ORANGE AND GREEN.

ST. JOHN'S, N. F. Dec. 31.—The Orange and Green have resumed hostilities in Conception bay. Yesterday an Orange mob attacked two of the released Riverside prisoners and fatally wounded them. There is great excitement in Harbor Grace. Crowds are occupying the streets. Serious trouble is expected. Mayor Fawcett and a large detachment of the constabulary force have gone on a special train to the scene of the affray.

Mexico.

VOLCANIC ERUPTION.

CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 30.—Great excitement prevails in the state of Colima over an eruption by the volcano of Colima. Four days ago loud reports were heard, and these were soon followed by an eruption of lava, which flowed over the sides of the mountain, completely covering them. At last accounts the people were much alarmed, as the flow of lava continued. A white cloud overhangs the mountain, and on it are reflected flames darting up from the crater.

Peru.

LIMA, Jan. 2.—The government has reduced the army to 5,000 men, including infantry, cavalry and artillery. In the late revolution Gen. Iglesias had 7,000 troops, and Gen. Caceres 3,000. Great satisfaction is felt throughout the country at the new order of things.

THE OHIO FRAUDS.

The Democratic Hamilton County Members to be Rounced.

The Democratic representatives from Hamilton will be ousted, despite the fact they have taken their seats in the House. A resolution has been offered to investigate the frauds in Cincinnati, and will no doubt be passed. The Democrats pretend to be willing for an investigation, but whenever a proposition is submitted to that effect, they make a desperate kick. They will never, if they can prevent it, permit the light to be turned on the desperate work they have done in Cincinnati, but being in the minority they are like struggling babies. Their damnable work is enough to make the angels in heaven blush. They are badly scared. Last night they held a star chamber session in the governor's office. Despite the fact that reporters were debarred, a correspondent slid in on them toward the close of their session. Tom Cogan had the floor, and the senators and representatives were vigorously cross-examining him as to how it was done. After Tom had aired his knowledge, one of the members exclaimed: "Well, Tom, it was a damned good job, but hardly good enough to stick!" They were so confused that they failed to arrive at any conclusion as to what course they would pursue, and adjourned until to-night. It was the opinion of the caucus, with a few exceptions, that the Hamilton county members would have to go.

Was Related to the Royal Family of Prussia.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 5.—The Rev. Arthur O. Brickman died at his residence in this city at an early hour this morning, in his 61st year, of the neuralgia and gallstone. He was born at Koenigsburg, Prussia, and was a son of one of the most prominent German physicians of his time, and, it is said, closely related the Royal family of Prussia. He graduated from the university of Leipsic, and entered the Lutheran ministry. His connection with the revolt of 1848 in Prussia exiled him, with the Hon. Carl Schurz, with whom he has always maintained an affectionate friendship. Since giving up the active work of the ministry he has pursued literary labors and lecturing.

A Woman Frightened to Death.

PITTSBURG, Jan. 5.—Near Uhrichsville, O., James Parker, a farmer, took a load of grain to Kail's mill. There being no one but Mrs. Kail on the premises, she went out to show Parker where to put the grain. While he was unloading, Parker fell in a fit and rolled on the ground in fearful convulsions, shrieking, groaning, frothing at the mouth, and tearing his flesh with his finger nails till his face was covered with froth and blood. The horrible spectacle so frightened Mrs. Kail, who was in delicate health, that she ran to the house and fell upon the floor, where she died in less than five minutes.

Floods Cause a Loss of $3,000,000.

EMPORIUM, Pa., Jan. 5.—Heavy rains and large quantities of snow on the timbered hills have conspired to produce the most violent flood known in many years along the Drift Wood and Sinnamahoning creeks. Millions of logs have broken from their fastenings and are going down the swollen river at a terrific rate. It is said the loss to lumbermen will approach $3,000,000.

GENERAL TRADE.

Volume of Trade, Both Active and Speculative, Less Than in 1884.

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—The *Times* of this morning says: A careful review of the returns made to the various exchanges indicates that although there is a vastly improved feeling in most business circles, the volume of trade both in actual and speculative transactions was less in the year just past than during 1884. The improvement in trade was very marked during the second half of the year, the date of improvement being co-incident with the settlement of the West Shore troubles in June last, thus confirming the views of many of the bankers with conservative business men that the muddle growing out of the construction of this road had been the cause of the depression existing since the beginning of the construction of that railway.

The records of the Produce Exchange do not convey any showing of the volume of speculative transactions. These form by far the greater part of the total of the business. Some idea of their immensity may be gathered from the margins put with the Exchange by the members as security for speculative contracts. This amounted, during the year just closed, to $25,582,860.

The transactions in the staple products during the year at the calls were: Wheat, 59,464,000 bushels; corn, 24,328,000 bushels; oats, 4,127,000 bushels; lard, 100,500 tierces.

The Iron Trade—Threats of Tariff Revision.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30.—In a review of the iron trade, James H. Swank, general manager of the American Iron and Steel association, says, after giving a number of statistics: If there was no threat to-day of tariff revision the promise of 1886 would be bright indeed. Not to borrow trouble, however, it can most positively be said that a feeling of confidence in the future of business now prevails throughout the entire country. We have entirely recovered from the effects of whatever panicky feeling prevailed a year or six months ago. The uncertainty about silver may excite financial circles, but it is having no injurious effect upon general business. Although complete statistics are not in, it is certain that we made almost as much pig iron and as many steel rails in 1885 as in 1884. Railroad building in 1885 was more active than has generally been supposed it would be. In 1884 we built 3,950 miles of new railroad, and in 1885 we built over 3,000 miles, which is 500 miles above estimates for the year, made as late as July. We shall do better in 1886. The European iron trade exhibited no symptoms of a revival in 1885, but, on the contrary, the backward movement which has from the first more than kept even pace with our own depression, continued until the close of the year. Taking the iron making countries of Europe as a whole, the iron trade situation in that grand division is much worse to-day than it was six months ago.

HYDROPHOBIA.

Six Cases in Milwaukee Within Six Months—An Old Lady Dying.

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 4.—A physician who was called late Saturday night to attend Mrs. Lucht, aged 67 years, found in her another well developed case of hydrophobia. Inquiry developed the fact that about two months ago Mrs. Lucht was bitten on her hand by a little street cur. The wound healed rapidly, and nothing more was thought of the occurrence, the woman enjoying exceptionally good health until Saturday, when she was taken suddenly ill. When the physician arrived he found Mrs. Lucht snarling and snapping her teeth, occasionally biting anything within reach, and now and then growing or barking much like a dog. At the sight of water she became violent in the extreme, and the greatest care was necessary to prevent her from doing harm to herself or those about her. She passed a bad night, but her physicians pronounce her case to be hopeless, and her death is expected at any hour.

This makes six fatal and dreadful cases of the disease in Milwaukee within as many months. One of the children bitten at Wauwatosa a few weeks ago, and who upon showing symptoms of having hydrophobia was brought to this city for Turkish bath treatment, has been returned to his home cured.

The President Interviewed—His Tariff Views—Appointments, Etc.

NEW YORK, Jan. 3.—The *World's* correspondent had an interview with Pres. Cleveland yesterday. The President was asked how he regarded Sen. Beck's speech upon the tariff.

He replied: "My own personal idea about that is, that the only practical way to pass a bill would be to have the proper committee charged with the work take up the subject in a business fashion, and modify the present law in such a way as to help people who have, and to take away needless protection from the few who have grown inordinately rich at the expense of the few."

Referring to the subject of the Senate and the consideration by that body of his appointments, the President said: "I have made no hasty selection of officers, but on the contrary have given very much time and investigation to the subject, appreciating that very much depends upon the personnel of the government. Possibly I may have erred in some instances, but I am sure they are few, and I have every evidence that the country is satisfied with the new officials. I have no knowledge as to what course the Senate will pursue, but I have no idea that it will assume to interfere with the prerogatives of the President. I have my duties, and it has its duties. One thing I do not believe, and that is that the United States Senate will spend its time in listening to the petty criticisms of appointees which come from disappointed applicants for office."

EATING RAW PORK.

Four of an Illinois Family Dead, and the Fifth Dying.

STREATOR, ILLS., Dec. 31.—About two weeks ago a physician was called upon to attend the family of an old German named August Feldt, the members of which seemed to be suffering from some strange disease. The doctor ascertained that the family had eaten heartily of pork purchased from a butcher in this place, and after obtaining some of it he proceeded to examine it with a microscope, finding unmistakable evidences of trichinæ. About a week later, one of the children, aged ten years, died, and the following day another child, a boy of fourteen years, was taken away. The mother was then prostrated, and in a few days, she too, died. During this time several doctors were called in, but could do nothing toward checking the disease. On Monday another member of the family, a girl of 12 years, died, and the father now lies in a condition beyond all hope of recovery. Mr. Feldt purchased a quantity of this pork and had it salted down. The children, he said, had been in the habit of going to the barrel and eating of the meat, and being rather careless, he had permitted them to do so, not realizing that there might be anything wrong. The house in which the Feldt family lives is wretchedly filthy, and has probably aided the trichinosis in its deadly work.

Big Suit About a Proposed Bridge at Minneapolis.

MINNEAPOLIS, Jan. 5.—What promises to be one of the largest law suits in the history of the city has been begun. All the owners of flour mills on the west side of the river, representing capital to the amount of $5,000,000, are plaintiffs against the city in a suit for a perpetual injunction against the building of a stone arched bridge across the west channel of the Mississippi from the city proper to Nicollet Island. Bonds for this were authorized by the last legislature, the cost to be about $500,000. There has been a good deal of talk and argument as to whether or not the bridge would interfere with the flow of the current so as to change the channel and impair the water power. After examination by engineers, a majority of whom expressed an opinion that the construction would not damage the water supply, the city decided to build at once, though under protest from a good number of property owners. The mill owners allege that by building the bridge the mill power will be heavily damaged, with a possibility of ruining them when the narrowed current has caused unavoidable erosion.

Old Veterans.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 30.—About twenty ex-Union soldiers, who survived the explosion of the packet Indiana at Memphis, Tenn., April 27, 1865, met at Fostoria, O., to-day, and organized a permanent association. Several states were represented. Resolutions were adopted memorializing Congress for relief.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 30.—At a meeting of ex-soldiers held at Terre Haute a preamble and resolutions were adopted demanding the passage of a law granting pensions to all surviving soldiers and sailors of the war of the rebellion, who served sixty days or more, at the rate of $8 per month.

The proposed law is not to effect pensioners who now receive more than $8 per month.

A bill embodying these demands will be introduced and advocated by James F. Johnston, representative from the Eighth district.

Daniel R. Stanton, of Philadelphia, who pleaded guilty of murder in the second degree, in shooting Fred Nash, has been sentenced to an imprisonment of seven years and six months.

PLUCKY BUT INDISCREET.

Mr. Towle Attempts to Fight Two or Three Railroads and the United States.

HAMNOND, Ind., Jan. 5.—M. M. Towle, a wealthy citizen and an ex-mayor of this city, was arrested and taken to Indianapolis by United States Marshal Hawkins, charged with obstructing and delaying the United States mails by stopping a Louisville, New Albany & Chicago passenger train. Some years since, this road bought from Mr. Towle some land lying between the right of way and the Nickel Plate and Chicago & Atlantic roads, and constructed a draw bridge over the Calumet river. The bridge when opened extended a few feet beyond what Mr. Towle thought was the railway company's right-of-way of line, and over what he called his property, although it was a portion of the river channel, and the property of the government. As the strip of land between the Nickel Plate and New Albany right-of-way was practically unapproachable and useless, Mr. Towle has for several years past endeavored to sell it to the New Albany road, claiming also that when the company secured its right-of-way, through Mr. Andrew Crawford, it was understood that he should be paid for this strip of land, which is contrary to the understanding claimed by the New Albany officials. Seeing that the company could not be induced to buy the land, Towle, on Sunday, had a mud-scow and a tug boat meet at the bridge and signal to have it opened. When the bridge was opened the two boats were securely anchored by Mr. Towle and several hundred men, in such a way that the bridge could not be closed and that trains could not pass. Besides, he had hot water and a hose in readiness to thwart any attempts to loosen the boats and close the bridge. Supt. Woodward soon arrived on the spot and took in the situation. Towle would not allow the bridge to be closed, and the United States marshal was telegraphed for, with the result as above stated. The penalty for delaying the mails is $1,000 fine, and for obstructing lines in Indiana two years' imprisonment in the penitentiary and $1,000 fine.

TEXAS MURDER MYSTERIES.

Arrest of a Mexican Crank that Promises to Clear Them Up.

AUSTIN, Dec. 31.—Eustacio Martinez, a Mexican, about 40 years old, was arrested last night on suspicion of being implicated in the mysterious murders which have recently startled the citizens of Austin. He lived in a secluded spot near the river, and a search of the premises resulted in the discovery of bloody garments and several articles of female apparel. Among the articles found were an ice-hook, such as experts declare might have been used in the murder of Mrs. Ramey and her daughter several months ago. A prayer-book, with the name "Ella R. Ramey," written on the title page, was also found, together with the two handkerchiefs, one of which bore the initials "J. R." worked on the silk. The other was marked "A." The detectives think that the arrest of Martinez will clear away the mystery of the outrage and murder of the Ramey women. Evidence was also discovered convicting the prisoner with the recent murders of Mrs. Hancock and Mrs. Phillips, and the assault upon the latter's husband. The wounds inflicted on Mr. Phillips' head are very similar to those found on the Ramey girl, and were probably inflicted with the same instrument.

Martinez shows signs of being a crank. He admits that he was imprisoned for two years for assaulting a woman. The old blood stains on the clothing are being examined by scientists.

CONDENSED TELEGRAMS.

At Salt Lake, Brigham Hampton, convicted of conspiracy, was sentenced to the maximum penalty—one year in the county jail.

The aggregate deficit in the National Soldiers' Home accounts is something over $220,000, according to Gen. Rosecrans's report.

Members of the Chinese Order of Free Masons to the number of a hundred, held a meeting in Baltimore to receive a visiting high dignitary. The ceremonies were peculiar.

The alleged Mercer estate in New York city, with fabulous sums for distribution among the heirs, is said to have no foundation in tangible property. A meeting of the heirs has been appointed for St. Paris, O., in January.

William Allen Butler, the New York lawyer who delighted the lovers of humorous satire some thirty years ago with the woes of Miss Flora McFlimsy in "Nothing to Wear," has written a novel which will soon be published. The work is another satire.

The iron and steel trade in Pittsburg has never been better than at present, and comparisons with previous years will show that since the great increase in business, which commenced last June, there has been more iron and steel made in Pittsburg than in any six months in the history of the trade.

Col. R. G. Ingersoll says the statement by a Cleveland spiritualist paper that he pocketed the proceeds of a lecture given for the benefit of the Secular Union is a lie. The engagement for the lecture was his own private affair. He paid all the expenses of the meeting of the Union, and gave it about $1,000 besides.

Charles Grosvenor, of Memphis, was to have married a lady of Louisville next Thursday, to whom he gave a diamond ring and necklace on Christmas. The announcement that he had wedded Miss Olivia Hill, the wealthiest heiress in Memphis, creates an infinite degree of gossip, as he has offered no explanation of his action.

DIME NOVEL STYLE.

Boy Burglars Batter Down Doors and Rob a House Near Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 4.—A daring and unique robbery took place on the Harrison pike, just outside the city limits, at an early hour Sunday morning, the burglars being mere boys, who were masks and conducted themselves in regular dime novel style. Theodore Wolf lives in a small house a little apart from his neighbors. His wife, who was alone in the house, was abed and asleep. She was awakened by a knock at the front door, accompanied by the summons, "Open this door or we'll break it down. We're robbers," and then, while the woman almost fainted with fear, the threat was executed and the masked marauders stood before her.

"Where is your money and your silverware?" demanded one of the robbers. The woman detected the voice of a boy attempting to speak like a man. She refused to give up her valuables, and one of the ruffians threw her upon the floor and choked her, while the other went through the house, scattering everything to the right and left, and shouldering and pocketing whatever struck his fancy. When the house had been thoroughly rifled the two youthful robbers made good their escape, and have not yet been arrested, nor is the identity of either known to Mrs. Wolf.

When Mr. Wolf returned, scarcely half an hour after the unique robbery had been committed, he found his wife nearly overcome with fear, and she has been dangerously ill ever since.

The New York Legislature.

ALBANY, Jan. 5.—The assembly organized this morning by electing Mr. Husted speaker. In the senate, Sec. of State Cook took the chair and administered the oath to the members-elect.

Gov. Hill, in his message, recommends the enactment of a law providing for the drafting of a new chart for the city of New York. He advocates "home rule" for cities, and the passage of laws that will effectually prevent citizens evading the tax upon their personal property.

Telegraph Poles.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 5.—In the case of the city of East St. Louis against the Western Union Telegraph company, on the charge that the company's poles and wires were a nuisance in violation of a city ordinance, Justice Shea gave a judgment for the city for $50 and costs. An appeal was at once taken. The case will probably be carried to the Supreme court, and the question definitely settled whether the company has a right to maintain its poles in the city.

The Whisky War in Tennessee.

CHATTANOOGA, Jan. 4.—This city has been thrown into considerable excitement by the announcement that the saloonkeepers, against whom an Sunday law is being rigidly enforced, had sworn out nearly 100 warrants against those engaged in all the trades and professions who do business on Sunday. The whisky men say they have been discriminated against, and propose to test the law to its full scope. The warrants include newspaper publishers, livery men and street car officials.

Prohibition in Georgia.

ATLANTA, Jan. 5.—Judge Clarke, in the Superior court, dismissed the petition of the liquor men for a mandamus compelling the ordinary to hear the contest over the Prohibition election. The case will now go to the Supreme court.

A Nihilist Convicted.

ODESSA, Jan. 5.—A nobleman named Hauntscharoff has been convicted here of nihilism and sentenced to be hanged. The trial was conducted secretly.

TWO SIDES OF IT.

Bob Burdette Gives a Story Both Ways, for You to Judge.

HIS WIFE TALKS ON THE TRAIN.

Now I'll tell you why I wouldn't go into the restaurant and have a cup of coffee with you while we were waiting for the train. I didn't like the way you asked me. Keep quiet, I have the floor. Not half an hour before, you said to Mr. Puffer, "Come, let's get a cigar," and away you went, holding his arm and not giving him a chance to decline. When we met John O'Howdy on our way to luncheon you said, "Just in time, John, come take lunch with us." And then to-night, when we found the train nearly an hour late, you looked at your watch, turned to me and said, in a questioning way: "Would you like a cup of coffee?" And I did want it; I was tired and a little hungry, but I would have fainted before I accepted such an invitation. And you went away a little bit vexed with me and had your coffee and bread and butter by yourself and didn't enjoy it very much. In effect, you said to me: "If you want a cup of coffee, if you really *want* it, I will buy it for you." You are the best husband in the world, but you do as nearly all the best husbands do. Why do you men seem to dole things out to your wives when you fairly throw them to the men you know? Why don't you invite me heartily, as you invite men? Why didn't you say "Come; let's get a little